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CLARIN CARRIES REPORT ON BRITISH PEACE OVERTURE

PY072027 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 1 Feb 83 p 10

[Passages in all capitals denote boldface as published]

[Text] The proposal for a peaceful solution to the conflict over the Malvinas made by the British Government on 17 May 1982, one month before the surrender of Puerto Argentino, PROVIDED FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ARGENTINE AND BRITISH FORCES AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS BY THE UNITED NATIONS. IT ALSO ESTABLISHED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES' CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ARCHIPELAGOS WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT MIGHT TAKE PLACE AFTER THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED.

Two days later -- on 19 May 1982 -- Argentina made a counterproposal that also provided for the withdrawal of forces and the provisional administration of the islands by the United Nations, but established that "the flags of the two countries should be hoisted up beside that of the United Nations" and that the administrator would appoint an equal number of Argentine and British residents of the islands to act as his advisors.

Copies of the two proposals, which were obtained from "HIGHLY RELAIBLE SOURCES" were published here in the last issue of the magazine "ESTRATEGIA" as part of an article on the armed conflict.

The British proposal in paragraph 1 of article 1 clearly established that "NONE OF THE POINTS OF THIS PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT WILL AFFECT THE RIGHTS, CLAIMS AND POSITION OF EACH OF THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE FINAL PEACEFUL AGREEMENT OVER THE ISLANDS."

Moreover, in paragraph 2 the British proposed to establish that "no act or activity that may take place while the provisional agreement is in force would represent the grounds to base, support or deny a claim of territorial sovereignty over the islands or to grant any sovereign right over the islands."

The provisional agreement suggested by the British Government provided for the withdrawal of all armed forces belonging to the two countries, preceded by a complete cease-fire and an end to hostilities, the elimination of all exclusion zones, the lifting of blockades and economic measures taken against the other party in addition to requesting third countries to also lift similar sanctions.

It was reportedly also established that the two nations "JOINTLY PROMOTED" a draft resolution in the United Nations to recognize the agreement and appoint a UN "administrator" for the islands "who would be a person acceptable to both Argentina and the United Kingdom" and "WHO WOULD BE OFFICIALLY IN CHARGE OF MANAGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLANDS."

This administrator would govern by consulting the "REPRESENTATIVE ORGANIZATIONS ESTABLISHED ON THE ISLANDS," the Island Council and "one representative of the Argentine population normally residing on the islands." He would also be in charge of supervising the "withdrawal of all armed forces from the islands" and of drawing up "an effective plan to prevent them from returning."

Moreover, each party would be entitled to have three observers on the islands and the previous bilateral negotiations would be resumed as well as the Argentine Air Forces' "COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE ISLANDS AND THE ARGENTINE MAINLAND."

Article 8 of the proposal stated that "the parties agree to start good faith negotiations to be conducted by the UN secretary general, seeking a peaceful solution to the dispute and -- with a sense of urgency -- end these negotiations by 31 December 1982." It pointed out that "the negotiations would be started without them affecting the rights, claims and positions of the parties and without a preconceived position regarding their results."

THE PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS MADE ONLY 4 DAYS BEFORE THE BRITISH LANDING AT SAN CARLOS AND TWO WEEKS AFTER MUTUAL BOMBING STARTED, APPARENTLY WAS REJECTED BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT.

The Argentine counterproposal coincided with the British proposal in the areas of the WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES UNDER UN SUPERVISION, A PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLANDS BY UNITED NATIONS WITH OBSERVERS OF THE TWO PARTIES AND THE MAINTENANCE OF AIR, TELEPHONE AND OTHER TYPES OF COMMUNICATIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE EXISTING BEFORE 2 APRIL.

However, the Argentine proposal regarding the islands administrator's advisors stated that the UN should "appoint an equal number of British and Argentine residents on the islands as the administrator's advisors" instead of the Island Council and one Argentine representative.

New 'Military Attempts' Urged

PY071801 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 1 Feb 83 p 10

[Passages in all capitals denote boldface as published]

[Text] JUAN GUGLIALMELLI, former commander of the V Army Corp, asserted here that Argentina lost the war over the Malvinas because it did NOT EXPECT THE BRITISH REACTION and due to an "erroneous distribution of its groundforces," most of which were aimed at the Chilean border, which represented "AN UNFORGIVABLE MISTAKE BY THE MILITARY."

The retired military officer, who also acted as secretary general of the National Development Council (Conade), published a lengthy analysis of the WAR OVER THE MALVINAS in the magazine ESTRATEGIA which he directs. In his article he makes a plea to "KEEP ALIVE THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEW, SERIOUS AND OBJECTIVELY planned military attempt," to recover the islands.

Guglialmelli attributed the Argentine defeat in the war over the islands to "SERIOUS ERRORS IN THE POLITICAL-MILITARY HANDLING OF THE WAR," and in this regard pointed out the errors of judgment made by the Foreign Ministry headed by Nicanor Costa Mendez.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS ON POLITICAL CASES REPORTED

Supreme Court Releases Prisoner

PY032133 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 2 Feb 83 p 4

[Excerpt] The Supreme Court has sent a note to the president of the nation ordering that Leonardo Raul Reyes, who has been detained on orders of the executive branch for more than 8 years, be released on a restricted freedom status or be allowed to leave the country within the next 15 working days.

Magazine Decree Ruled Invalid

PY050052 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Feb 83 p 4

[From Argentina in Brief column]

[Text] Federal Judge Hector Bujan yesterday ruled invalid a decree which prohibited the circulation, distribution and sale of issue No 97 of HUMOR magazine last month, and ordered the executive branch of the government to immediately release copies confiscated by Federal Police last January 11.

Sources in the Interior Ministry stated that the government plans to appeal the decision on the premise that the banned issue was "destabilizing" and detrimental to peace and order.

At the time of the confiscation of the magazine, its director, Andres Cascioli, said the government wanted to cause financial problems for the magazine and accused retired general Bartolome Gallino, one of the directors of Fabril Financiera where the magazine was printed, of informing authorities of the contents of the magazine.

A few weeks before the banning of HUMOR a court declared invalid the total closures the government ordered against QUORUM, LINEA, and LA SEMANA.

FIP Case Dropped

PY050009 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1515 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Feb (NA) -- The court has dismissed charges against three members of the Popular Leftist Front (FIP) who were prosecuted for painting slogans on the walls surrounding a vacant lot in Buenos Aires. The court recommended that a special place for advertisements to be used exclusively for political propaganda be established. Judge Carlos A. Oliveri noted that these persons "exercised the right to publicity that is granted to political parties, a mandatory step in the announced path to achieve the democratization of the country."

The measure favors Carlos Maria Grondona, Franco Ernesto Marletta and Cesar Horacio Gonzalez Trejo who alleged that they only painted the walls surrounding empty lots and construction sites.

The federal police laboratory reported that the slogans could easily be removed because of the kind of paint that was used. Therefore, the judge declared that there was no property damage.

Former Finance Secretary Remanded

PY042254 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1802 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Feb (NA) -- Today Judge Alfredo Oliva remanded former Finance Secretary Juan Alemann to custody following the suit for libel and slander filed against him by former Navy Commander in Chief Emilio Eduardo Massera.

The judge stated that in principle, Alemann is guilty of slander for publicly declaring that Massera allegedly was "the inspirator of an attack" against Alemann during the 1978 world soccer championship.

BRAZIL REACTS TO REPORT ON PLUTONIUM PRODUCTION

Official Statement Released

PY052222 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Feb 83 p 6

["Text" of note issued by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry in Brasilia on 4 February]

[Text] With reference to an article published by a U.S. newspaper yesterday and reproduced by the Brazilian media today regarding the Brazilian Nuclear and Energy Research Institute (IPEN) the Foreign Relations Ministry hereby informs that:

1. IPEN's U.S.-supplied reactor is subject to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguard clauses, which are contained in the safeguard agreement signed between Brazil, the United States and the IAEA.

2. What the article has reported as being IPEN's reprocessing unit in reality is a laboratory for evaluating the safety of nuclear material. Its purpose is to train technicians in nuclear safety.

3. The laboratory has not handled any type of radioactive material. Should it do so, all of Brazil's international commitments regarding nuclear safeguards will be strictly complied with.

4. The Brazilian Government has and will always continue to comply with the commitments undertaken in the international agreements regarding cooperation in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, including the agreement signed with the United States and the corresponding agreement establishing safeguards signed by Brazil, the United States and the IAEA.

5. The Brazilian Government reasserts the exclusively peaceful purposes of its nuclear program, which is aimed at meeting the country's technological and socio-economic development needs.

Spokesman Calls Treaty 'Unfair'

PY051856 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] In Brasilia, Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas made it clear that Brazil will not alter its nuclear policy. Pericas said that he considers the nuclear arms nonproliferation treaty unfair.

Pericas said that the Brazilian Government reasserts the exclusively peaceful purposes of its nuclear program, which is aimed at meeting the country's technical, economic and social development needs.

Plutonium 'Not for Military Purposes'

PY050007 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Before returning to Brasilia, Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals told reporters that Brazil will have to produce plutonium, but not for military purposes.

Minister Cals explained that the contracts for nuclear technology transfer that Brazil has signed foresee the reprocessing of several products. One of those products will be plutonium, which will be used in fast reactors.

Report on IPEN Reactor

PY050240 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 4 Feb 83 p 8

[Text] Sao Paulo -- During its 26 years of existence the small research reactor of the Nuclear and Energy Research Institute (IPEN) has been operating for an average of 40 hours a week. On this operating basis it would be necessary to irradiate some 100 kilos of natural uranium for 120 years in order to produce 700 grams of plutonium.

The IPEN reactor operates with uranium enriched to a 93.17 percent and the remaining 7 percent with 238 uranium (atomic waste) which contains a small amount of plutonium. Therefore, more than a century would be necessary to accumulate a reasonable quantity of this element and "the little bit which has been gathered so far by the IPEN has been shipped to the United States," states scientist Roberto Hukay.

Hukay, who was area manager of the IPEN and now holds the post of coordinator of nuclear affairs of the Sao Paulo Industry, Commerce, Science and Technology Secretariat, after calculating how long it would take to produce plutonium points out that the entire operation of the IEA-RL [IEA - Atomic Energy Institute; RL - expansion unkown] reactor is supervised by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. Furthermore, even if the plutonium existed, it could not be reprocessed at this time because "the IPEN is still working on the project for an experimental reprocessing unit which will be completed only in the next few years."

The only Brazilian nuclear program which could be converted for military use is not part of the Brazilian-FRG agreement. That potential-military program involves alternatives based on the utilization of a uranium enrichment process through ultracentrifugation, inasmuch as the jet nozzle [given in English] enrichment process, which the FRG is transferring to Brazil, has not yet been commercially approved.

Work on such alternatives began in 1978. The Brazilian nuclear program underwent a fission of its own: The generation of electricity by nuclear means was assigned to Nuclebras, and the work on uranium enrichment -- which falls under national security requirements and contemplates the future manufacture of weapons -- was assigned to the IPEN.

The uraniun enrichment is labeled secret. Studies have advanced past the preliminary phase which consist in the design of the main parts for the ultracentrifugation equipment. The Sao Jose dos Campos CTA [Aerospace Technological Center] is testing the rotor of the ultracentrifuge in a high pressure chamber. The IPT [Technological Research Institute] is working on microelectronic components for the project.

This project, which is to be completed early inthe 1990's, will cost $100 million. It will be apportioned 12 billion cruzeiros in 1983.

NEW PDS CONGRESSMEN SHOW MORE INDEPENDENCE

PY051958 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 83

[From "Castello's Column" by Carlos Castello Branco: "Government No Longer Controls PDS"]

[Excerpts] The Minas Gerais bloc of the PDS [Social Democratic Party] has adopted a surprising attitude in its first meeting, which was not attended by Deputy Magalhaes Pinto. By a 23-to-2 vote, it denied its support to a government decree-law amending the salary law.

The Minas Gerais bloc, which is the main PDS base in the Chamber of Deputies, has thus struck a rebellious pose. This probably attests to the dominant mood of all congressional blocs, including the Progovernment bloc.

The PDS congressmen from Minas Gerais have not managed to recognize any dominant influence in their bloc. The former governors in the bloc's roster -- Magalhaes Pinto, Rondon Pacheco and Ozanam Coelho -- have no control over it, and this situation makes it difficult both to establish a hierarchy of responsibilities and to define responsibilities. Divided between former UDN [National Democratic Union] and former PSD [Democratic Social Party] members and resentful over the electoral defeat in its state and even over the choice of the candidate for governor -- a former minister who was never very active in party politics in Minas Gerais -- the Minas Gerais PDS deputies gave a highly significant demonstration of their mood.

The government is afraid that this manifestation might be the prelude to a total loss of control over the entire Progovernment bloc. There are no natural leaders in any state, whether because some former leaders have lost political control or whether because former governors who are present in almost every state bloc have no strong electoral base. Chamber leader Nelson Marchezan hardly controls the Rio Grande do Sul bloc, which is affected by dissent.

Government officials, upon reading the roster of deputies, cannot but worry because they can hardly identify most of the deputies of the progovernment party. There is no state or national control over these people and their behavior is entirely unpredictable after the position adopted by the Minas Gerais bloc, which has customarily been made up of prudent and obedient people. This situation reflects the long neglect of political leaders by the regime in which the commanding posts have been in the hands of military men or technocrats for so long.

The government, however, still has some hope regarding the behavior of blocs from the northeastern states, although some of them are shaky due to regional disputes worsened by the electoral maneuverings.

SNI CHIEF COMMENTS ON VON BAUMGARTEN CASE

PY071330 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Excerpts] [Words indistinct] Gen Newton de Oliveira e Cruz, head of the National Intelligence Service (SNI), defended his organization from the charges made against it by journalist Von Baumgarten. During an interview granted to a newspaper from Brasilia General Cruz called the charges made by the missing, or dead, journalist as being defamatory.

In supporting the official note released by Planalto Palace, the SNI chief stated that Von Baumgarten's charges are false and distorted. When he was asked whether he was a friend of the journalist, the general answered: No, I only met him when he came to my office and was introduced by an acquaintance as the promoter of the Cruzeiro project.

General Cruz was also asked whether the situation caused by Von Baumgarten's death would jeopardize President Figueiredo's democratic opening. He answered: No, never, the truth will prevail. President Figueiredo's democratic purposes are firm. The SNI's counsel will always be useful to guarantee the democratic opening's fulfillment.

PINOCHET ENDS VACATION, RETURNS TO CAPITAL

PY071854 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contrera]

[Excerpt] Today President Pinochet resumed his activities at his office in La Moneda Palace. In the morning he dealt with government issues, thus ending his annual vacation.

Accepts Foreign Minister's Resignation

PY071750 Paris AFP in Spanish 1711 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Santiago, 7 Feb (AFP) -- The General Government Secretariat has reported that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet accepted the resignation of his Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames today. The report added that Rojas Galdames, who has been at the head of Chilean diplomacy since March 1980, will be replaced by Miguel Alex Schweitzer, who is now ambassador to Great Britain.

RODRIGUEZ GREZ SCORES 'CONSPIRACY OF RUMORS'

PY072333 Paris AFP in Spanish 1524 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Santiago, 6 Feb (AFP) -- The Chilean military government is facing a conspiracy of rumors that are hindering the negotiations it is holding with foreign financial agencies in order to overcome Chile's deep economic crisis, nationalist leader Pablo Rodriguez Grez said here today.

An influential ideologist, believed to be a representative of progovernment hardliners, Rodriguez Grez stated that a campaign of antipatriotic and ill-intentioned rumors, which tend to make foreign governments believe that the Chilean regime has been destabilized, has been unleashed. He noted that the rumors of divisions within the Chilean leadership have hindered the renegotiation of the huge debt contracted by Chilean corporations with the international banking system as well as the negotiations being held by Economy Minister Rolf Luders.

Rodriguez Grez also dismissed as baseless the reports that the Chilean economic system is approaching socialism, as observers suggested after the government decreed the intervention of five banks. Then he wondered: Do we need more conclusive proof in order to realize that we are facing a conspiracy which has taken advantage of our economic problems? We are going through a critical period, he concluded, but with faith and courage we will make it.

DECREE AUTHORIZES CREATION OF NEW SECRETARIAT

PY272043 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] A decree has been implemented authorizing the creation of a General Secretariat of the republic. The decree-law issued by the Interior Ministry establishes that the Secretariat will be an organization which will be directly subordinate to the president of the republic. It will be charged with advising the president on the exercise of his administrative functions and on other required cases, providing him with the necessary information to adopt the appropriate decisions. It will also be charged with adopting the necessary measures for the quick implementation of presidential decisions when the chief of state so decides.

FARC LEADERS MEET WITH PEACE COMMISSION

PA060031 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Feb 83

["Text" of document signed by Colombian Peace Commission President Otto Morales Benitez, Peace Commission coordinator John Agudelo Rios, Rafael Rivas Posada and Alberto Rojas Puyo; and by Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia High Command members Manuel Marulanda Velez, Alias Tiro Fijo; (Jaime Guaraca); and Jacobo Arenas, in Huila Department; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Peace Commission President Otto Moralez Benites, the Peace Commission coordinator and the other members of the Peace Commission met for 2 days with Manuel Marulanda Velez, (Jaime Guaraca) and Jacobo Arenas, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, High Command, at the invitation of FARC High Command members, to discuss peace in Colombia.

The first thing that FARC High Command members praised was President Betancur's effort to establish the conditions for an amnesty that will consolidate and prolong peace among Colombians.

Law 35 of 1982, which was approved by Congress and which the president of the republic gave top priority, was complemented with a series of measures aimed at establishing the means to support and help the guerrillas and residents of regions where violence has prevailed to carry out works and new efforts by the community with state aid in order to create the conditions so that all the groups can return to normal life without problems.

We asked for this meeting, so that with the participation of all parties and the country's progressive forces, we can establish the conditions for coexistence and national political peace according to the new democratic developments that all political sectors have been demanding and advocating for several years.

We have agreed to hold future meetings to help consolidate the peace programs and encourage proposals for social and economic change.

We also want the participation of other government officials, and wish that in a short time it will be possible for the military High Command to meet with the former guerrilla fighters so that no one in Colombia will doubt the creative harmony that should prevail among all the sons of this, our land, which has suffered many wounds.

The FARC expressly wishes to declare that it does not minimize the importance of the amnesty law. On the contrary, the FARC relies on it becoming an instrument for the mobilization of opinion and of the best masses for a struggle on behalf of a true, stable and lasting peace.

It is for this reason that the FARC has promoted this meeting with the Peace Commission, and the FARC will continue, in the best spirit, to move toward the holding of new talks intended to bring about a grand agreement that strengthens peace among Colombians.

The attendants also stress the cordial climate in which these talks were held and concluded.

[Signed] The attendants at this meeting, held in (Colombia) Municipality, Huila Department.

Prelate Notes Limited Amnesty Results

PA040311 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Bogota -- The Colombian church today voiced its concern over the wave of violence striking the country. At the same time, the church said that the amnesty which the government granted to the rebels has not had the expected results.

Bishop Rafael Gomez Hoyos. Member of the Peace Commission created by Belisario Betancur's government, said here today that only 200 guerrillas have accepted the amnesty. Monsignor Gomez Hoyos added that if we compare this figure with the total number of guerrillas in the Colombian rebel groups -- about 6,000 -- it is only a small percentage.

However, the Colombian prelate noted that the Betancur government is still waiting and that the authorities honestly and sincerely want to cooperate with the rebels.

The Amnesty has been in effect in Colombia since 20 November, following its approval by Congress.

MAGAZINE CRITICIZES DEFENSE MINISTER'S EDITORIAL

PA041500 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 83

["Politics Without Fear" feature by Edgar Artunduaga]

[Text] The defense minister's controversial editorial published in the Armed Forces magazine is still raising a ruckus and is being commented upon by newspapers and magazines. AL DIA magazine today highlights some political opinions regarding the editorial. As you may recall, the editorial has been interpreted as a possibility that the state of siege might be implemented again soon.

On that occasion, the minister said: The members of the Armed Forces do not wear the insignias of our commands for surrender, but for victroy. Here are some of the opinions printed by the magazine:

Vasquez Carrizosa: The president insists on calling for peace, while the minister implies that the time for war has arrived.

Alberto Casas Santamaria: Tempest in a teacup...it is logical that the military men wear their insignias for victory.

Vasquez Carrizosa: The insecruity and discriminatory conditions have reached such a point that citizens have had to pay for their own security out of their own pockets.

Abelardo Forero Benavides: The slogan should be; for Colombians, including the Armed Forces, peace should mean victory.

Vasquez Carrizosa: We cannot think about a subway until we have resolved the problem of human survival, because those who survive will be the ones who will ride the subway.

OLADE ENERGY MINISTERS TO MEET IN QUITO 7 FEB

PA041314 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2332 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Quito, 1 Feb (EFE) -- The energy ministers of the Bolivarian countries and of Mexico will meet in Quito on 7 February on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE). An official note released by OLADE, which is permanently based in Quito, notes that this "energy minisummit" may be attended by the Brazilian energy minister as well.

The energy ministers of Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Panama and Mexico will avail themselves of the opportunity to discuss the world energy situation and particularly that of the Andean region, the OLADE note adds. The ministers will also discuss their interaction with Mexico, which is the largest oil producer, and with Brazil, the largest consumer.

ARMY DENIES MOBILIZATION ON PERUVIAN BORDER

PA061843 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Army Commander Gen Jorge Arciniegas has denied persistent rumors that troops have been mobilizing near the Peruvian border.

When asked to comment on the subject, the chief of the Ecuadorean Army said that these reports have no basis and that they are merely speculation. I don't know how such rumors start, he said.

DEFENSE MINISTRY DENIES PERUVIAN TORTURED

PA041906 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The National Defense Ministry's Public Relations Office has announced that as soon as it learned via a local newspaper of a Lima-datelined report about an alleged incident in which Ecuadorean soldiers tortured a Peruvian citizen named Carlos Reategui Sousa, it immediately requested information from the relevant military authorities, who responded that the story is false and without foundation. The office also notes that the mistreatment allegedly inflicted on the Peruvian citizen is against regulations established and complied with by Ecuadorean personnel.

BRIEFS

OIL SALES TO TAIWAN -- According to an announcement by the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, Ecuador will begin delivering 10,000 barrels of crude a day to Taiwan under agreements reached between CEPE and the Taiwanese state oil company. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Jan 83 PA]

HIGH GRADE OIL -- The Ecuadorean State Petroleum Enterprise, CEPE, reported that the Chuchuqui 4 well yielded 39 grade oil, the highest grade oil found in the northeastern Amazon region in Ecuador. The Chuchuqui 4 well, located in the Chuchuqui field, yielded 2,795 barrels a day during its production test. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 Jan 83 PA]

REPORTAGE ON ELECTIONS, 'OPERATION RETURN' 2-7 FEB

Montanaro Warns Exiles 2 Feb

PY021713 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1530 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Statement and press conference by Paraguayan Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro at the Interior Ministry in Asuncion on 2 February -- recorded]

[Text] [Montanaro] Messrs journalists, in view of the information which the news media release daily concerning the attempt which certain individuals of obvious leftist and Marxist leanings will make to enter the country, and bearing in mind their inability to adjust to democratic coexistence, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity which you have been kind enough to extend to me at my office in order to let the people know, especially our fellow party members the Colorados, that the national government, presided over by that most illustrious statesman, Gen Alfredo Stroessner, wants to confirm that -- as President Stroessner himself has said -- it is and will always be an incorruptible champion of peace which we defend and preserve from ridicule and violence with utmost energy.

Every attempt to disrupt order and public tranquillity, be it on the eve of elections or on the election day itself, will be thwarted forcefully.

We have been enjoying and will continue to enjoy a democracy free from communism, President Stroessner has said, and we will defend it from terrorists and those who seek to saddle our land with the yoke of Marxist totalitarianism. We will continue to forcefully struggle against terrorism. We the Colorados are incorruptible champions of peace.

Gentlemen, there is freedom of press and the people know well enough that certain news media are obviously guilty of abusing this freedom, a freedom of which they are not worthy, because they serve subversive objectives plotted abroad and because they seek to destroy peace, the source of all that is good, as President Stroessner says. The government is defending peace and it will continue to do so with the strength that stems from its patriotism.

Thus, it is only fair that the weight of the law should fall on those who seek to inject the poison of their slander and evil into the peaceful life of the nation.

Our peace stands for all that we have done and all that we will continue to do. Our peace is the key to national greatness.

Messrs journalists, we have issued our warning and let it be clear to all that if any subversive attempts take place, those who encourage them, those who eulogize crime and those involved in actions that go against law and democracy will receive the punishment which the Paraguayan people demand for those who betray their peaceful and progressive lifestyle.

For us, to rule means to implement ideas which imply peace, progress and wellbeing and to defend the Constitution and the laws. The Colorado mentality of intellectuals, workers, students, farmers, of our glorius Armed Forces, and of all of us who speak honestly to the people is pervaded with faith, hope and victory so that our glorious flag can fly proud and high.

Thus, the Paraguayan people and the national government will enforce full respect for democracy during the coming elections, irrespective of whether those who want to disrupt this respect are communists, Marxists, Laino's agents or Epifanio's supporters. Thank you.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I will be pleased to do so.

[Question] Is the government planning to resort to strong-arm measures against those who attempt to enter the country?

[Answer] The government is not foreseeing any strong-arm measures, but it plans to resort to whatever means are necessary to prevent individuals, who are a threat to the order and tranquillity which the country is enjoying, from entering the country and disrupting our fatherland's established order and peaceful existence.

[Question] In any case, the state of siege will be lifted on election day?

[Answer] On Sunday, 6 February, the state of siege will not be in force. In keeping with a decree law which the president is going to sign, the state of siege will be lifted from 0000 on 6 February until 2400 of the same day.

[Question] However, will not the lifting of the state of siege make it difficult to prevent the above-mentioned persons from entering the country?

[Answer] The attempt which any person may make to enter the country in order to disrupt the existing order and tranquillity will be repressed.

[Question] Dr Montanaro, we have been told that the return of these persons in exile, to give them a name, will be permitted on an individual basis subject to approval by the executive branch. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] If those who believe that their absence from the country is due to their own free will and want to come back, the government will study the possibility of letting them enter the country.

[Question] Mr Minister, does this mean that certain political leaders in exile still have a chance to come back?

[Answer] Well, we do not consider most of them to be in exile. For us, the word exile applies to those who have been expelled like those types Laino and Luis A. Resck, who will certainly not be allowed to return.

[Question] Mr Minister, there is talk that these people in exile will come together with Brazilian congressmen. Will these people be allowed to enter the country?

[Answer] We do not care about those who come along with these persons or the sponsors they may have, or those who recommend that they should be admitted into the country. All persons who have visas and their documents in order can enter the country, so I cannot tell you which foreigners will not be allowed to enter the country.

[Question] You spoke about certain news media that abuse the freedom of the press. What specific news media were you talking about?

[Answer] Specifically and categorically I meant those newspapers which claim to be independent and supply daily information about opposition parties, be it true or not. Reports which indicate, for example, that there were party rallies which gathered 8,000 or 15,000 people, when in fact only 50, 60 or 100 persons attended these rallies. Those newspapers claim to be independent; we do not regard them as independent, but openly siding with the opposition.

[Question] Are measures against these newspapers being planned?

[Answer] Not planned, but in keeping with its constitutional powers the government may implement such measures, whenever it deems appropriate.

Return Attempt Forecast 4 Feb

PY041658 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1123 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Feb (NA) -- Leaders from different Paraguayan political parties, grouped in 2 fronts opposing Alfredo Stroessner, will try on Sunday to return to their country after more than 20 years of forced exile. It will be the fourth "Operation Return" that they have tried in the last 4 years.

Luis Resck, president of the Paraguayan Christian Democratic Party, and one of the leaders of "Operation Return," said that the objective of this plan is "to bare the electoral farce that the dictator has set up for next Sunday." General elections will be held on Sunday in Paraguay and Stroessner hopes to be reelected for the seventh consecutive time after 29 years in office.

In addition to Resck, Waldino Lovera and Captain Sardi (from the Colorado Popular Movement), Rafael Saguier (from the Authentic Radical Liberal Party) and three other Paraguayan politicians exiled in Argentina are participating in this fourth "Operation Return."

Speaking to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Resck said that about 300,000 Paraguayans live in Argentina and that about 300,000 others live in neighboring countries. He noted: "one third of Paraguay's population lives in exile."

Resck said that the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry "has pressured Argentine officials to stop us from undertaking this new Operation Return but until now we have had no inconveniences... Therefore, I believe that on Sunday we shall travel to Asuncion." He added: "If Stroessner feels sure about the elections, one wonders why is he taking measures against us. This shows his weakness, the insecurity of the regime that is dominating our people."

The Paraguayan Security Council, a sort of supreme organization of the security forces, reported a few days ago that it will stop the return of political exiles.

Resck, who did not hesitate to criticize Stroessner and Paraguayan officials, noted that in his country "a state-sponsored terrorism has been installed for 29 years." He noted that "this state-sponsored terrorism is shown through the persecution, the imprisonment and the deportation of opposition members and many times by the killing of dissidents of the regime. It is also shown through the hunger of the people, unemployment, economic poverty and existing corruption."

Resck said that the objective of "Operation Return" is "to make the world aware of the tyranny that is oppressing the people of Paraguay." He also denounced Latin American totalitarian regimes, international companies and U.S. President Ronald Reagan "for keeping Stroessner in power and for cooperating with the policy of oppression against the people of Paraguay."

Havana on Returnees Expulsion 6 Feb

PA071728 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The 24-hour lifting of the stage of siege, which has been in effect in Paraguay for over 25 years, did not stop the authorities from expelling 14 opposition leaders in exile who arrived on Sunday at the Asuncion airport. The opposition leaders' trip coincided with the general elections programmed by the Paraguayan regime to re-elect dictator Alfredo Stroessner for another 5-year term. Asuncion international airport was reinforced by police following announcement of the return of the 14 exiled leaders who, after 20 years of being forced to live abroad, where kept from leaving the airplane and forced to return to Argentina on the same flight.

National Accord's Martinez Protests

PY061849 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 1440 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Telephone interview granted to Humberto Rubin of Radio Nanduti by Dr Miguel Angel Martinez Yaryes one of the leaders of the National Accord at Febrerista Party headquarters in Asuncion -- live]

[Text] [Martinez Yaryes] Good morning, Mr Rubin, good morning listeners of Radio Nanduti. Here we are holding a press conference after having returned from the international airport where we awaited the arrival of the politicians in exile who had decided to return today in keeping with article 55 of the national Constitution and protected by the decree lifting the state of siege for today.

This attempt at returning to their fatherland was thwarted even more arbitrarily than the last time because this time we were not allowed to enter the building of the airport and were stopped at the toll booth at the entrance to the airport grounds. After waiting for some time near the entrance, we were ordered to leave the neighborhood of the airport. Thus, it seems that the lifting of the state of siege does not apply to those of us in the country as well, not just to those who want to come back.

[Question] Dr Martinez Yaryes, did the people arrive? Do you have an idea of whether they arrived or not because someone, I think it was (Amarilla) [not further identified], said that Laino had called him from the airport? Were they able to leave the plane? Do you know anything?

[Answer] It has been impossible to obtain any information in this regard so far because total secrecy prevailed and it is quite possible that the procedure used on prior occasions was repeated; they were not allowed to get to the airport building and will return in the same plane.

[Question] Where are you at this point, Dr Martinez Yaryes?

[Answer] We are now at the Casa del Pubblo [House of the People, Febrerista Party headquarters] where we are providing information concerning "Operation Return" to local and international journalists to whom we have conveyed our protest, the protest of the National Accord, which has already issued a communique in this connection.

[Question] Foreign journalists are also present Doctor?

[Answer] A few foreign jouranlists are present, they have received a copy of our communique and are currently talking to some of the leaders of the national accord.

National Accord Communique 7 Feb

PY080109 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Feb 83 p 12

[Communique issued by Paraguayan National Accord in Asuncion on 6 February]

[Text] In view of the national government's stand against allowing fellow countrymen to return to the country, the National Accord states:

1. The return of our fellow countrymen has a meaning for peace and reconciliation among all Paraguayans.

2. Article 56 of the national Constitution provides that all residents can move freely throughout the nation, change place of residence, leave the country and return, bring their assets into the country or take them out of it with no other restrictions than those established by the law in the latter case.

3. Therefore, the right which exiled fellow countrymen have to return to the country is legitimate and is guaranteed by the national Constitution.

4. We feel that it is appropriate at this point to quote the responsibilities which the government takes upon itself if it precludes the exercise of a legitimate right provided for by the national Constitution:

Article 40 [of the national Constitution]. No branch of the state can assume or confer on other branches or persons; extraordinary powers other than those provided for in the Constitution; total political power; or supremacy by which life, freedom, honor and property of persons depend on its will alone. The dictatorship is operating outside the law. Article 41 [of the national Constitution]: High level authorities, government officials and public servants shall always abide by the Constitution and the law; they shall discharge their duties in keeping with the Constitution and the law; and they shall be held responsible for any transgression, offense or fault they may incur while discharging their duties without absolving the state of responsibility, which will be determined by the law. A special law will determine the responsibility of public servants, in order to guarantee their effective performance.

5. On the basis of such clear principles, which have already been defended on previous occasions, the National Accord expresses its solidarity with those fellow countrymen whose aspiration is to return and live in their homeland in keeping with a legitimate and natural right. The actions that those citizens undertook for the purpose of excercising the fundamental right of living in the land where they were born cannot be regarded as an attempt to disrupt order.

6. The National Accord voices its protest against the authorities' arbitrary decision not to allow the exiled fellow countrymen to return to our country.

Statements From Exiles

PY070156 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2324 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (NA) -- The Paraguayan party leaders who were not allowed to return to their country today have released a statement in this city, warning that

they will resort to other "reasonable and just" methods, which will be conclusive, "in order to free our people."

In the statement, the party leaders -- who make up the National Accord that opposes President Alfredo Stroessner -- remarks: "We have always sought to achieve a democratic opening through peaceful means, despite the fact that we had to face the regime's institutional violences."

The statement also gives details of the thwarted attempt to return and charges that the Stroessner regime "oppresses the people and foments social injustice and corruption."

The statement is signed by Luis Resck, Rafael Saguier, Miguel Gonzalez Casabianca and Antonio Gonzalez Prieto who, together with four other Paraguayan political leaders unsuccessfully tried to return to their country today.

PRF Sees 'Electoral 'Farce'

PY080147 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Feb 83 p 9

[Text] Dr Alarico Quinonez Cabral, the president of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PRF), has told HOY that his party could have by no means participated in the elections since, he said, "we don't want to play their game." Mr Quinonez then noted that "not much can be added to the recent statement released by the PRF. We simply did not participate in this farce for well known reasons."

Regarding the elections held in our country yesterday, the political leader said: "I don't know anything about them because I was in the countryside, very far from Asuncion, and I had no news of what was happening."

Top PRF leaders noted that their party had already decided, quite some time ago, not to participate in any kind of elections held in our country, in disagreement with electoral maneuvering.

The PRF has been duly authorized to participate in the elections because it has been recognized by the Central Board of Elections. However, on several occasions the party imposed a series of conditions in order to participate in elections.

The PRF has recently launched campaigns to win supporters, especially among the young people.

BELAUNDE ON FREEDOM OF PRESS, POSSIBLE COUP

PY072046 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Excerpt] In his usual Sunday press conference, President Fernando Belaunde was asked about freedom of the press in Peru by Peruvian reporters. In this regard, the president firmly stated that none of the Peruvian newspapers will be closed and that no pressure will be accepted in this regard.

[Begin Belaunde recording] As far as freedom of the press is concerned, I believe that there is no room for discussion. I saw a report a few days ago which made me laugh. It said that I was pressured to close a certain newspaper. Do not worry. None of the newspapers will be closed. They can say whatever they want. They can even be disrespectful. I am not going to use any of the measures which protect the president of the republic. I am only interested in the consensus of the people. Of course none of the newspapers will be closed. Do not harbor any fear. And as far as the emergency zones are concerned, all zones where there is violence are declared zones of emergency or zones of war, and these zones obviously have their own restrictions. People must get in touch with the local authorities, who will establish rules according to the circumstances. But there are no restrictions on freedom of expression in Peru. [end recording]

The chief of state also denied rumors of or reasons to believe there might be a coup d'etat.

[Begin recording] [Question] Mister President, there is no doubt that the past week has been a very critical time for the government, and even international analysts have expressed their views on the situation. These international analysts have insinuated the possibility of a coup d'etat. Do you think this is possible?

[Answer] Listen, you said they are analysts. What do these gentlemen analyze? A difficult moment for the government? An act the government had nothing to do with? What role could the government have played, after all, in a very rash expedition? This expedition was planned by other sectors and carried out by other sectors. And government representatives in the area only learned about the expedition 48 hours after the death of the unfortunate victims? Can there be an analyst who feels that the government is responsible for this action? It is one thing to be an analyst and quite another to be a hack news reporter. [end recording]

CIVIL GUARD CLAIMS TO HAVE KILLED TERRORISTS

PY041726 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1027 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Lima, 4 Feb (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Peruvian Civil Guard (uniformed police) reported last night that the Peruvian police killed 13 presumed terrorists in clashes in the Andean Province of Ayacucho, where eight reporters and their guide were stoned to death last week by peasants. The clashes took place in the region where guerrillas from the Maoist movement Shining Path center their activities and where the reporters who were trying to cover the confrontations died. The main union organization of Peruvian reporters has set a strike and rally for today through the streets of the Peruvian capital to support their demand for an official explanation on the death of the reporters. The Civil Guard also reported that they discovered a guerrilla plot to murder the mayor and high-ranking police officers of the city of Puno, on the coast of Lake Titicaca, some 1,300 km east of Lima. Puno is outside the region placed under military control in view of repeated acts of violence perpetrated by terrorists.

SEPULVEDA TO MEET COSTA RICAN COUNTERPART

Mexico City Meetings 7-9 Feb

FL072200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2024 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat today announced that during next week's meeting of the foreign ministers of Costa Rica and Mexico, from 7 to 9 February in this capital, the present state of bilateral relations will be taken up. One of the main topics to be examined by Costa Rica's Fernando Volio Jimenez and Mexico's Bernardo Sepulveda Amor will be the recent evolution and the future in general of economic cooperation between the two countries, inasmuch as it has grown considerably in recent years.

Within this context, Costa Rica's participation in the program of energy cooperation for Central American and Caribbean countries -- as established in the San Jose agreement signed by Mexico and Venezuela -- will be examined. As part of this program Costa Rica received 4,200 barrels of crude daily last year at a value of $49.3 million, of which 30 percent (some $14.8 million) is carried as credit to that Central Amiercan country. There is also a cooperation agreement between Pemex and the Costa Rican oil refinery (Recope), which provides for ongoing oil exploration in its territory.

Efforts are being made, the Foreign Secretariat indicated, to broaden technical cooperation, mainly focused on the training of Costa Rican technicians and visits by Mexican advisers of various fields, above all in the area of public administration.

The Secretariat noted that the presence in Mexico of Foreign Minister Volio Jimenez will give an opportunity to Sepulveda Amor to explain in detail Mexico's initiatives, jointly adopted with other Latin Ameircan countres, whose purpose is to find a solution to Central American conflicts.

The Mexican Government, together with those of Colombia, Panama and Venezuela, issued an urgent appeal on 9 January last to all countries in Central America so that, through dialogue and negotiations, tensions may be eased and the foundations for a permanent climate of peaceful coexistence and mutual respect be established.

Opposition to Conflicts Restated

FL080101 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0015 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico opposes any kind of armed conflict because we have neither adopted nor now adopt positions of belligerence against anybody, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor asserted today. The foreign secretary went to the international airport to welcome Costa Rica's foreign minister, Fernando Volio Jimenez. While at the airport, Sepulveda Amor ratified Mexico's position of seeking peaceful solutions to international conflicts. He said that must be the way to be followed in the ongoing conflicts in El Salvador and Guatemala, as well as in resolving difficulties between Honduras and Nicaragua.

For his part, the Costa Rican foreign minister said he would like to see the heads of Latin American states discuss all problems, find their identities and make themselves be heard in international forums.

Volio Jimenez said the purpose of his visit to Mexico is to discuss economic, cultural and diplomatic relations between the two nations.

We would like to see Mexico get more involved in Central American affairs, Volio Jimenez said after noting that it is urgent that all countries in Latin America become part of a strong homogenous bloc which would avoid foreign meddling. Finally, he voiced his confidence in Central America Catholics so that the upcoming visit of Pope John Paul turns out to be of enormous benefit for the region's stability.

CTM LEADER CRITICIZES MERCHANTS' ATTITUDE

PA271333 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 15 Jan 83 p 2

[Article by Jorge Octavio Ochoa]

[Text] Fidel Velasquez [secretary general of the Confederation of Mexican Workers, CTM] yesterday said that merchants are backing and are in collusion with the United States, and are therefore unpatriotic. He said this in commenting on an article in last Wednesday's WALL STREET JOURNAL in which Canaco [National Chamber of Commerce] leaders supposedly requested help from the U.S. Government to prevent social conflicts in Mexico.

Without accepting the report as factual, the CTM leader said that much is said in the United States to discredit Mexico, "but we should not worry about anything except what our people do or say."

Meanwhile, Juan Jose Osorio Palacious, coordinator of the workers organization, said the working class does not seek clashes with the organized merchants, and only tries to prevent exaggerated price increases. He added that workers have not declared holy wars against this sector, and said "it is merely a war against the high cost of living."

Therefore, he warned merchants that since they affirm that they have not withdrawn from the pact of national solidarity with the executive branch, they should first of all comply with it. We workers, he insisted, want the people to have access to the basket of basic products. "It is wrong for these measures to lead to confrontations."

Fidel Velasquez was interviewed later in his CTM office and he ironically said that merchants have not withdrawn from the pact with the executive branch, "they have violated it, and they have done worse: They have the people against the wall, not only condemning them to suffer the consequences of price hikes, but to live in misery. They are not even able to get basic products."

However, Velasquez denied rumors about the promotion of housewives protests, and said this particular struggle is being waged following constitutional guidelines to prevent arbitrary attitudes that could result in serious social problems.

ONIUC To Meet With Top Authorities

Velasquez also announced that Blas Chumacero, CTM's alternate secretary, will meet again with trade authorities as head of the national organization of tenants and consumers, ONIUC [Organizacion Nacional de Inquilinos Usuarios y Consumidores] to continue with the negotiations on price revisions.

Velasquez reiterated that the CTM will support Blas Chumacero's negotiations, in an effort to coordinate the government and workers movement forces.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES RELATIONS WITH NETHERLANDS

FL072215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2035 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Belize City, Feb 7, CANA -- Belize and the Netherlands have established diplomatic relations at non-ambassadorial level, according to an official announcement here. The Netherlands ambassador to Belize, Barn Speyart van Woerden, who is based in Mexico, today presented his credentials to Belize's Governor-General Dr. Minita Gordon.

COSTA RICA

MONGE 'ABSOLUTELY PLEASED' WITH REAGAN LETTER

PA071532 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] During a meeting that lasted over 2 hours yesterday, Sunday, in Puntarenas, President Luis Alberto Monge and Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, analyzed several aspects of the international situation, bilateral issues and the need for continued efforts to develop and preserve democracy in Central America.

Kirkpatrick's 3-day visit to our country, during which she met with political, labor and private enterprise representatives and government officials, entered its final phase in yesterday's meeting with President Monge.

President Reagan's letter to Monge expresses sincere congratulations to the Costa Rican president for the significant gains made toward Costa Rica's full economic recovery, resulting from the agreement reached with the IMF and the renegotiation of its foreign debt with the Paris Club.

President Monge was absolutely pleased with Reagan's message and to have personally met Kirkpatrick, whom he highly regarded for her initiative, intelligence and ability to make decisions.

PAPER LAUDS REAGAN'S GEOPOLITICAL VISION

PA072307 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 14A

[Text] For the first time, and in a significant and historically ambitious way, a message from President Reagan takes into consideration -- from a realistic and cautious geopolitical viewpoint -- Central America as an organic part, along with the United States, of a common destiny. He said that the U.S. Government and the Central American countries "must pursue an association for peace, prosperity and democracy."

This statement goes beyond the limits of simple economic aid, of a cooperation plan such as the one launched by President Reagan some months ago. The new concept was enhanced with the call that Reagan made to the U.S. Congress that "this enterprise is a joint responsibility of the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. Government," and was summed up when he compared the importance of the roles that Central America, the Caribbean and the Middle East play in the U.S. Government's global policy.

The awareness that an orthodox policy of economic aid -- as well as an isolated or emergency military action -- is not enough and that a more profound and global vision is necessary to guide the Central American area toward a historical integration and a hemispheric destiny is quite an improvement from former policies.

Based on mutual understanding and absolute respect for the sovereignty, independence and self-determination of the Central American and Caribbean nations, this association with the United States for the achievement of a common goal -- peace, prosperity and democracy -- would mean a new historical order. Likewise, it would allow much deeper multilateral exchanges and reciprocity in the economic, cultural and political aspects, which would bring incalculable benefits.

The hemispheric awareness that we are a whole -- if as yet incomplete -- that is perceived in President Reagan's speech is something that deserves the special attention of Latin American politicians, intellectuals and businessmen, especially since they are currently given to seeing only the negative aspects of relationships and groupings of peoples that have been inexorably determined by geographic and human factors.

The subsequent development of this basic concept, which is new and innovative, will be a task that offers encouragement for all, and a new framework in which it will be possible to place within a more adequate perspective all the problems, differences, misconceptions, misunderstandings and frictions that still keep us grouped so incoherently.

MONGE ON RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, NICARAGUA

PA072359 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has denied that his country intended aggression against Nicaragua, even though he admitted that 400 Costa Rican guards watch the border between the two nations. During an interview granted to the Mexican paper EXCELSIOR, Monge said that his country remains neutral toward Nicaragua but has placed guards in the border area to prevent armed groups from organizing behind the government's back.

Finally, Monge said that Mexican-Costa Rican relations are somewhat tense, adding that Mexico is very categorical in its solidarity with Nicaragua and very subdued in its relations with Costa Rica.

EXCELSIOR commented that even though Costa Rica does not have an army, as President Luis Alberto Monge has said, foreign interests could create one in a short time if it were necessary.

OPERATION AGAINST LEFTIST GROUPS ANNOUNCED

PA070505 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 12 A

[Excerpts] A nationwide operation against all those leftist groups involved in movements that seek to disrupt the constitutional regime will be launched this week by the Government Ministry authorities, Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon announced yesterday. Chacon mention the fact that two carbines of the type used by the government, several issues of the weekly LIBERTAD, medicines, a gas stove and two sets of fatigues were found a few days ago in a recently abandoned camp at the mouth of the Rio Pacuare.

According to Deputy Minister Chacon, this must be added to the increasing number of reports and rumors from the Atlantic zone on the alleged activities of leftist groups. The leftists' activities include the training and maintenance of armed squatters, who even have a powerful clandestine radio station in Talamanca. Chacon added that a number of alleged air deliveries of weapons in areas of Perez Zeledon, Quepos and Sarapiqui are also being investigated.

Deputy Minister Chacon did not provide any details about the type of action that will be undertaken. Other ministry spokesmen limited themselves to confirming that no action is being coordinated yet with the Public Security Ministry.

Let It Be Cleared Up

"I'm very interested in clearing this up," Deputy Minister Chacon stressed. He also exhibited a rifle, apparently of Czechoslovak make, which was seized a few months ago in Talamanca. The official explained that despite the investigations conducted by the rural guards, it has been impossible to establish the alleged responsibility of Eden Pastora, Alfonso Robelo, or Fernando Chamorro in connection with the camps discovered.

Two of the camps were abandoned approximately a year ago. One of them was located across the old canal from Matina, and the other across from the new canal. At the latter site, a small boat whose owner has not been identified recently sank while loaded with weapons.

The third camp, where the leftist documents were found, was located in Finca la Estrella, Deputy Minister Chacon explained, adding that when police arrived between 20 and 30 unidentified men fired into the air to cover their escape. Investigations in the area were conducted by Maj Walter Campos.

A careful search has been ordered in view of the discoveries made and due to the intensification of the suspicion that local leftist groups may be operating there. According to Chacon, last year when President Luis Alberto Monge denounced the destabilizing actions of the leftists, rumors quieted down, but now they have intensified.

There has been talk about clandestine training in Neguev de Pococi, about possible actions by as many as 400 armed squatters in emergency situations in Talamanca and "carbon 20" [not further identified], about the operation of a clandestine station with mobile installations and about the arrival of weapons, Chacon went on.

Finally, he said that in Barra de Matina they had found seven FAL rifles in a warehouse owned by a man named Ledezma, a well-known leftist and "agitator of squatters."

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA APPOINTS NEW UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

PA080302 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0204 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Col Rafael Flores Lima, chief of General Staff of the Salvadoran Army, today was appointed under secretary of defense, a position that had been vacant since June 1982, when the guerrillas captured Col Adolfo Castillo. The Armed Forces Press Committee tonight released a communique announcing the appointment of the new under secretary of defense, and that of Col Mario Alberto Reyes Mena as chief of General Staff to replace Flores Lima.

The Armed Forces general order says that Alvaro Magana, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, "exercising the powers vested in him by the laws," has appointed Colonel Flores Lima under secretary of defense and public security.

By virtue of the same order, Col Mario Alberto Reyes Mena, who was until now military commander of Santa Ana, the country's second-largest city, has been appointed chief of general staff.

Colonel Castillo, who was taken prisoner in June while on a helicopter flight over the eastern Department of Morazan, has been transferred to the Armed Forces General Staff "on availability status," says the order, which bears the number 4.

This latest transfer is justified since Castillo "is absent and is not performing the functions of defense and public security under secretary," the order says.

The appointment of the under secretary of defense has been made "bearing in mind the increase in the armed forces' units, troop strength, equipment and so forth," and in view of the need for these administrative tasks "to be assigned to a person who can devote the necessary and adequate amount of time to the fulfillment of these functions," says the military order released tonight.

ARMED FORCES ALERT PEOPLE AGAINST FMLN ACTIONS

PA080049 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 Feb 83 p 3, 47

[Excerpts] The armed forces high command has altered all military and security forces, civilian authorities and the people in general to take precautions against the actions of vandalism that groups of the FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] are committing.

There have been daily attacks, robberies and burnings of sugarcane fields, coffee plantations and industries. The latest reports by armed forces spokesmen indicate that on Saturday several stores were robbed in the village of San Diego, La Libertad port. Approximately 10,000 colones were taken from one store, while shoes, clothing, food, supplies, etc, were stolen from other smaller stores.

A similar incident occurred in Santa Rosa, in the jurisdiction of Santa Clara, San Vincente Department, where a military patrol ambushed a group of terrorists in a pickup truck filled with stolen merchandise. The terrorists fled, abandoning their booty.

Another such incident occurred near Las Canas River, near Apopa, where the extremists were ambushed and forced to abandon more booty stolen from several places.

An intense clash occurred when subversive groups trying to seize the town of Tonaca Tonacatepeque met with fierce resistance by soldiers, civil defense members and reinforcements that arrived immediately, including a helicopter that provided control and support services.

The armed forces have been insisting that the citizens remain alert to report any unusual situation or danger as a result of the presence of terrorist groups.

Authorities of San Jose Guayabal have reported that one soldier of Cojutepeque, a member of the civil defense and a subversive woman died yesterday at dawn during an attack by the FMLN-FDR on the town of San Jose Guayabal. A large group of extremists was repelled by soldiers. Although fewer in number, with high morale the soldiers were able to defeat the subversive attack.

ARMY REPORTS SEVEN CASUALTIES IN SOCIEDAD

PA072243 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 5 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] In a heroic and brave manner, yesterday morning members of the armed forces confronted a large number of subversives trying to occupy the small town of Sociedad, Morazan Department. Official reports state that the terrorists attacked without respect for the lives of the civilian residents.

During the fierce battle, the army suffered seven casualties, including Cadet Lt Alvin Arturo Sancho Velasco and six soldiers who resisted to the end.

It was officially reported that the attacks on towns in Morazan Department are being carried out by the extremists, who are fleeing in disarray in the face of the unstoppable advance of the armed forces carrying out pacification operations to give protection and security to the civilians suffering from the merciless threat of the subversives.

RIGHTS COMMISSION DECRIES FMLN ACTIONS IN BERLIN

PA080041 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Communique of the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador issued in San Salvador on 6 February -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador, concerned about the events in the city of Berlin, and at the request of a group of people of Berlin living in San Salvador, traveled on 4 February to that city, where with deep sorrow and humanitarian feelings the commission was able to verify that:

1. The FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] indiscriminately attacked the civilian population of that city, causing fires; looting government offices, stores and private residences, and causing, with its continuous shelling, the exodus of thousands of people, including children, elderly people and women who tried to find a safe place to protect their lives.

2. At no time could the city of Berlin represent a military or strategic objective since there were only 43 members of the armed forces -- policemen and national guardsmen -- in the city.

3. Through military and psychological pressures, the civilians were forced to go to the city's park, where they had to participate in rallies that were filmed by foreign newsmen. The films have subsequently been shown in several countries for the sole purpose of confusing international opinion, trying to make international opinion believe that the subversives have the support of the people. This is one more exploitation of the Salvadorans' tragedy and sorrow for political propaganda purposes.

4. They caused the deaths of at least 12 defenseless civilians, including children, women and elderly people, without counting the casualties caused by the armd forces.

In the face of such actions, which are a flagrant violation of human rights and of the international agreements established in the United Nations' Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador energetically protests this savage terrorist act and joins the grief of the country's people, especially the heroic residents of the city of Berlin, who despite everything that happened in those distressing moments, courageously repudiated the attack on their city by the terrorist groups of the FMLN-FDR. The commission also demands:

1. An immediate halt to the indiscriminate attacks on defenseless civilians.

2. That in accordance with the most elemental principles of humanity and justice there be respect for the lives and security of noncombatants and for their right to live in peace and freely express their political views and give their moral support to whomever they believe deserves it.

3. That the FMLN-FDR refrain from committing acts of vandalism like those that occurred in the city of Berlin because they are not only violating the rights of those from whom they steal, but also those thousands of poor residents whom they leave without food, medicine and essential water and electric services for long periods.

4. That the FMLN-FDR stop the senseless destruction of job sources, means of communications and the infrastructure in general of the Salvadoran people. The only result of this destruction is to impose on all the Salvadoran people the most cruel and extended suffering to which any country of the American continent has been subjected in this century. San Salvador, 6 February 1983

MONSIGNOR RIVERA Y DAMAS DEMANDS END TO BOMBINGS

PA071723 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas, archbishop of San Salvador, has demanded a stop to the indiscriminate Salvadoran Air Force bombing of guerrilla-occupied towns in Morazan, Chalatenango and Usulutan Departments. During his Sunday homily, Monsignor Rivera y Damas charged that this bombing has killed hundreds of civilians in the past week.

ARMY ACCUSES GREEN CROSS OF AIDING GUERRILLAS

PA070036 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1904 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- In a statement published by the local papers today, the Salvadoran Army accused the Green Cross (yellow uniform) of collaborating with the guerrillas while performing its work.

This charge has been denied by a member of the organization, which Radio Venceremos, the official voice of the rebels, recently accused of picking up Army wounded and taking their weapons as well.

The officer who made the charge said that the armed forces know of several cases of the Green Cross diverting food and medicines meant for displaced persons to the guerrillas by making it look as if the trucks had been attacked by the rebels.

The Army spokesman said that members of the Green Cross recently pressured the military garrison in Berlin to surrender to the guerrillas who were attacking it. In response to these charges, a Green Cross member told ACAN-EFE that the organization has never been attacked during the transfer of its shipments, which are handled with ambulances and not with trucks. The Green Cross member added that, contrary to the charges, the Green Cross (yellow uniform) has never entered Berlin, which was occupied by the guerrillas for 2 days this week.

In one of their recent broadcasts over Radio Venceremos, the guerrillas charged that Green Cross volunteers had been picking up Army wounded in Berlin and taking them away along with their weapons, and they threatened to shoot at the volunteers if it happened again.

This has also been denied by the Green Cross spokesman, who insisted that they never went into Berlin.

The International Red Cross, the Salvadoran Red Cross and the Green Cross (white uniform) are also performing aid work in combat areas, in addition to the organization against which these charges have been lodged.

GUATEMALA

ORPA, FAR GUERRILLAS ISSUE REPORTS ON ACTIONS

PA051923 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] The Guatemalan Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] inflicted 77 casualties on the army forces and seized close to 4,000 rounds in actions undertaken in January.

An ORPA communique indicated that their operations included a coordinated attack on the army headquarters and on three police substations in Guatemala City.

In a document issued in Costa Rica on the 20th anniversary of the Guatemalan Rebel Armed Forces [FAR], the organization stressed the importance of developing the process of unity in guaranteeing victory against the Guatemalan regime. The FAR added that in the military field, 1982 was a year of intense work in which it was able to move to superior stages of struggle. It said that, working in extremely difficult conditions, it has been able to maintain its presence among workers, peasants and popular sectors.

Further ORPA Reports

PA062357 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] of Guatemala has reported in a communique that its forces inflicted 65 casualties on the army and captured approximately 4,000 rounds of ammunition in combat during January. The communique revealed that the operations carried out included a coordinated attack against the Army's General Headquarters and three police substations in Guatemala City.

The document, released in Costa Rica in ORPA's 10th anniversary, underlined the importance of revolutionary unity to guarantee victory against the Guatemalan regime. The document added that in the military aspect 1982 was a year of intense activity in which ORPA gained much fighting experience, having maintained its prestige among the workers, peasants and other popular sectors despite extremely difficult circumstances.

On the first anniversary of its creation, it is important to note that the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] has given an effective reply to dictator Efrain Rios Montt's maneuvers to eliminate guerrilla warfare and improve his image abroad, (Lucrecia Matzer), ORPA representative in Cuba, told Radio Havana. She explained that this is shown by the major importance of the guerrilla and propaganda activities, which cannot be denied by the regime. Thus, (Lucrecia Matzer) added, Rios Montt's deceitful policy has suffered a severe setback.

The ORPA leader also repudiated U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent claim that the human rights situation in Guatemala had improved, and recalled that the Guatemalan dictatorship has already claimed the lives of over 12,000 peasants. Finally, (Lucrecia Matzer) reiterated that the only way left for the Guatemalan people to gain their independence is through the popular revolutionary struggle.

URNG ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON FIRST ANNIVERSARY

PA071720 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] In a communique released in Havana on the first anniversary of its creation, the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, reiterates its willingness to qualitatively strengthen the struggle for the people's national liberation. The document stresses that the revolutionary movement of this Central American country has established very solid bases for new stages and that with the formation of the URNG a step forward was taken in the people's irreversible war in that nation.

The document also states that the Efrain Rios Montt regime, aside from being politically defeated, is carrying out several maneuvers intended to confuse national and international opinion. The URNG, created a year ago, comprises the Armed Peoples' Revolutionary Organization, Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, Rebel Armed Forces, and the Guatemalan Labor Party.

HONDURAS

COMMUNIST LEADER ON REPRESSION BY SUAZO, ALVAREZ

PA051830 Havana International Service in Sapnish 0000 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Interview by Pedro Martinez Piraz with Ana Maria Rodriguez, member of the Communist Party of Honduras' mission in Cuba, no date or place given -- recorded]

[Text] Herminio Deras, communist leader and labor adivser, was killed Friday in Honduras. For this reason, we have invited Ana Maria Rodriguez, a member of the Communist Party of Honduras' mission in Cuba, to this station's interview feature.

[Question] In the first place, Ana Maria, I would like to learn what goals Suazo Cordova's regime seeks to attain by committing this kind of crime?

[Answer] Well, by perpetrating this assassination, the government of Suazo Cordova and [Armed Forces Chief Brig Gen Gustavo] Alvarez Martinez -- for the latter is the one who holds real power in our country, along with a small group of officers who support him in these criminal actions -- seeks to intimidate the people. They don't realize that sooner or later the people's invincible struggle will lead to justice in connection with these criminal actions.

[Question] I would like to know whether paramilitary bands were involved, as the news dispatches have reported, or if this crime was carried out directly be the chief of the armed forces or the Honduran Armed Forces minister.

[Answer] So as not to be blamed, the military men always claim that the criminals are members of paramilitary bands and that they don't know whether these are quarrels or fights among leftist groups, as they call them. However, we know that these are military men dressed as civilians. Torres Arias, the former chief of military intelligence, has charged that Alvarez Martinez has a special security corps commanded by Maj (Alexander Hernandez) that is charged with the direct execution of all of these criminal actions.

[Question] In recent times, the Honduran Government has embarked on an anti-Nicaraguan policy, which is also opposed to the Salvadoran people. We would like to know if there is any relationship between that foreign policy and Honduras' increasingly repressive domestic policy?

[Answer] Yes, there is really a very direct relationship between the country's foreign and domestic policies. Just as it is repressive domestically, it is aggressive and interventionist at the foreign level, in accordance with Yankee imperialism's interests in Central America, naturally. Its interests call for continued domination, control and abuse for our people. Alvarez Martinez, Suazo Cordova and the clique that supports them have gladly agreed to act as puppets in fulfilling the dictates of their imperialist master in Central America.

[Question] I would like to know whether this policy being implemented by Alvarez Martinez and Suazo Cordova has met with opposition from either the Liberal Party or the armed forces.

[Answer] We don't think that all military men approve of Alvarez Martinez' policy. We know that there are honest, democratic military men in the armed forces who do not approve of this policy. We also know that there are honest men and patriots in the Liberal Party who oppose the interventionist and repressive policy being promoted by both Alvarez Martinez and Suazo Cordova.

They are even directly accusing Suazo Cordova of abandoning truly liberal positions, the positions that the Liberal Party has always maintained on behalf of the popular masses, especially the peasants. The Liberal Party has always upheld antiwarmongering and antimilitarist positions. So, we don't think all Liberals and all military men endorse the repressive and interventionist policy being implemented by Alvarez Martinez and Suazo Cordova.

[Question] What can this repressive policy lead to, Ana Maria?

[Answer] The repressive policy of Alvarez Martinez and Suazo Cordova will lead to a situation that we have already seen in other countries, where the peoples have liberated themselves. We have the case of Cuba, which rid itself of Batista's dictatorship. We have the case of the Salvadoran people; today they are engaged in a tenacious struggle against the criminals who rule them. Our people will also take weapons in hand and launch a struggle for liberation that will turn all of this repression into a mere sad memory in their history.

NICARAGUA

BARRICADA COMMENTS ON 'BIG PINE' MANEUVERS

PA060136 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The U.S. and Honduran armies yesterday began the "Big Pine" joint maneuvers barely 15 km from Nicaraguan territory, while the government of Roberto Suazo Cordova was trying to convince the world that the exercises "do not represent a threat to Nicaragua," an objective the United States officially admitted.

Puerto Lempira and Mocoron, familiar to Nicaraguans as the main bases of former Somozist guardsmen who are constantly conducting incursions into Nicaraguan territory, serve as the "Big Pine" bases. According to a Honduran official, the "Big Pine" exercises "are defensive maneuvers following the invasion of Honduras by a country called Corinto."

Maj Francisco Bustillos also told newsmen that hypothetical relations between Honduras and the country called Corinto have become tense, and there is a serious threat of an invasion of Honduran territory. For this reason Honduras has asked its friends for "help."

The friends are the 1,600 U.S. paratroopers aboard U.S. planes. These, it is claimed, have only the role of "logistic support" to the 4,000 Honduran soldiers that from U.S. ships yesterday carried out a disembarkation maneuver in Puerto Lempira.

COMMENTARY SAYS U.S. CREDIBILITY 'LOST FOREVER'

PA051616 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Eligio Alvarez Commentary]

[Text] The United States lost its credibility throughout Latin America when it suspended aid to General Somoza and it must act to restore it, Lt Gen Wallace Nutting, U.S. Southern commander in chief, told the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In our opinion, Nutting's brutal frankness reflects the Reagan administration's blundering and brutal policy in Latin America, not to mention the rest of the world.

In a few words, the Yankee military officer is telling us that strong language, both used and abused, is the only fitting language for U.S. defense and security; and that, if necessary, the United States will symbolically replace the Somozas with the many other tyrants that exist in every Latin American country, including Stroessner, Pinochet, and Rios Montt. Let us not forget all of those other leaders hiding behind the facade of so-called democratic governments.

It is difficult, but not impossible, for the U.S. Government to admit to the historical lesson learned from the fall of the Somozas; yet, with its characteristic doggedness, it wants to restore the policy of the use of force by bringing back the old gunboat era of Roosevelt and Taft, not realizing that the era of military intervention has passed into history. It is as if the lessons of Korea, Vietnam and the 50,000 dead in Nicaragua were not enough for the local oligarchies and U.S. imperialism.

U.S. imperialism has lost its credibility with Latin American countries forever; it cannot be restored. If our countries, with their mixed-race populations, ever had any belief in the United States, it was lost with the U.S. intervention in the Malvinas. What Mr Reagan, Nutting, Kirkpatrick and the CIA must restore is their credibility in their own country, troubled by a never-ending recession and by 12 million unemployed.

GOVERNMENT BEGINS ECONOMIC INCENTIVE PLAN

PA070226 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1652 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Managua, 5 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government today decided to implement an economic incentive plan for the producers of cotton, coffee, sesame seed and beef to increase the production of these agricultural products for export. The government junta will pay for the 1983-1984 harvest 1,100 cordobas ($110) per quintal of prime cotton delivered at a Pacific coast port, and 60 cordobas ($6) per quintal of cotton seed.

The producers of coffee for the 1982-1983 and 1983-1984 harvests will receive 1,200 cordobas ($120) per quintal of prime coffee, also delivered at a port, instead of the 1,000 cordobas ($100) that they had been receiving. The incentive for cattlemen will be an additional 222.44 cordobas ($20.20) [as received] for each 400-kg steer for the 1983-1984 production cycle.

According to the announcement, the sesame seed producers will continue to benefit from an incentive policy initiated last year by receiving 480 cordobas ($48) per quintal, depending on the quality and degree of humidity. The incentives for the farmers also include a reduction of one-half cordoba (5 cents) per kw in the electric power rate used for irrigation, and a 10-cordoba ($1) reduction in the price of agrochemical supplies used in the production of cotton. Foreign trade is nationalized in Nicaragua.

Economic Guidelines Announced

PA072300 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 30 Jan 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Salvador Mayorga, deputy agricultural development agrarian reform minister, explained in an interview with BARRICADA the main bases on which the agrarian reform is being carried out in our country.

Guidelines for 1983

Salvador Mayorga said that the agrarian reform will be expanded this year according to three guidelines:

The first is aimed at strengthening the cooperativist movement by issuing property deeds to some 200,000 new manzanas of land, which will be granted this year to production cooperatives. These 200,000 manzanas will include tenant farmers and settlers who are located on people's property area lands.

The second seeks to do justice to the peasants who were expelled from the best lands, which are those on the Pacific, and were often sent, by the former Somozist Agrarian Institute (IAN) to produce basic grains in distant lands lacking means of communications and having little infrastructure.

Consolidation and Planning of the People's Property Area

The third will try to reorganize and plan the people's property area, which was created immediately after the victory with the estates confiscated from Somozism. It was done in such a way that the land of some enterprises has been dispersed.

The revolution does not plan to continue expanding the people's property area in the field of agriculture; instead, it will organize the lands of these enterprises into more compact areas. This means that some of these farms with productive lands will become part of the cooperativist movement.

Work will be done to consolidate a selected group of cooperatives, which will receive aid to draft their production plans and set up accounting systems, and will be granted intensive technical assistance.

A total of 500 cooperatives will be selected for this priority treatment. They will not be dispersed, but instead located in centers or nuclei that will permit rational and efficient attention. The Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry is going to put its main efforts and resources into this, as well as into the rural assistance program.

Special Financing

Special financing has been obtained to take care of these cooperative development zones. The International Fund for Agricultural Development, IFAD, has granted funds of a little over $30 million for the cooperative development of Pantasma valley and surrounding areas, and also for Tola, in Rivas Department.

Special projects will be carried out in 15 zones of cooperative development and of priority interest to the national food program with funds from the EEC.

SOVIET 'PEACE COMMITTEE' ARRIVES ON VISIT

PA080253 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet peace committee, headed by Viktor Vol'skiy, director of the Latin American Institute in the USSR, arrived this morning here in Nicaragua. The visit seeks to expand the ties of friendship and solidarity with the Nicaraguan Peace Committee, Conipaz. Vol'skiy said that within the currently difficult world situation, especially that of the underdeveloped countries, it is necessary to join efforts in order to reinforce peace and to help the struggling peoples achieve peace.

The year 1983 is decisive for world history because with their mass struggles the peoples are forcing imperialism to suspend its plans to wipe out world socialism through an arms race, Vol'skiy commented upon arriving in our country.

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ON VISIT

PA041828 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The French National Assembly parliamentary mission that is currently in our country began a series of meetings yesterday with various representatives of the revolutionary government's political and social sectors.

The deputies, representing the Socialist, Communist, Radical, Democratic Union and Republican parties, are on a 7-day visit at the invitation of the State Council. While here they will meet with government authorities and with representatives of business and labor organizations, progressive and opposition parties and religious groups.

The delegation will also make an onsite tour of the Honduran border to view the difficult situation created by the constant incursions of Somozist guardsmen, who have staged 42 attacks and kidnapped 80 peasants in the last few weeks.

Concludes Stay

PA080240 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The seven parliamentarians and members of the French-Nicaraguan friendship group who spent a week visiting here returned today to their own country. Jean Natiez, Socialist deputy for [words indistinct] and president of the friendship group, expressed his satisfaction and that of his companeros over the efforts of the Sandinist people's revolution in the social, health and educational areas. The French parliamentarian said that they are sure that Somozism was not eradicated at the time of the revolutionary victory, and that the counterrevolution exists and is doing a lot of damage to the people.

Natiez said: We have witnessed the current state of underdevelopment, and to those who claim that this is the result of an East-West confrontation, we say that is false. Finally, he said that upon arriving in their country they will make every effort to strengthen French solidarity with Nicaragua.

SWEDISH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

PA051725 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Yesterday, Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga and various Nicaraguan National Reconstruction Government officials welcomed a Swedish Government delegation composed of Deputy Foreign Minister Pierre Schori and (Gesta Egrin), official in charge of technical cooperation abroad.

In remarks to newsmen, Companeros Schori and (Egrin) stressed that after the Social Democrat's victory in Sweden that brought Prime Minister Olof Palme to power, Sweden has increased economic aid to Nicaragua considerably. They reiterated that they support the Nicaraguan Government's efforts to promote detente in the area and they stressed that Sweden has never imposed political conditions on its technological and financial aid to Nicaragua.

The visitors met with Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez yesterday and are scheduled to meet today with Culture Minister Cardenal, the patriotic front of the revolution, the International Reconstruction Fund and Government Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega. Their program includes a Foreign Ministry luncheon and a reception at the Swedish Embassy in Managua. They are scheduled to leave Nicaragua at noon on Sunday.

GOVERNMENT, CHURCH PREPARE FOR POPE'S VISIT

PA080242 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The FSLP National Directorate, the Government of National Reconstruction and a Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference delegation have joined efforts to guarantee the order and success of the reception that the Nicaraguan people will accord to Pope John Paul II when he arrives in our country on 4 March.

The pontiff will be received at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport, and will be accorded the honors due a chief of state. Afterwards, he will visit Leon, say mass at the 19 July Plaza and will meet with the members of the FSLN National Directorate, the Government Junta and the Episcopal Conference.

Our country's Catholic prelates regard the pope's visit as an extraordinary event that greatly rejoices the Nicaraguan people since he will bring a message of peace and love.

Our government has declared 4 March a holiday so that everybody can attend the religious ceremonies in which the pope will participate. A national transport commission has been appointed to guarantee the people's organized mobilization to and from those sites.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA PROCLAIMS OMAR TORRIJOS BRIGADE

PA021600 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, Nicaraguan defense minister, today inaugurated the artillery brigade of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] which was given the name of Gen Omar Torrijos. The ceremony, held at the headquarters of the unit, served also to open the military instruction term for this year.

Present at the ceremony were the members of the Junta of the Government of National Reconsturction, the FSLN National Directorate, and a large numberof people. At the invitation of the Defense Ministry, a delegation of the Panamanian National Guard General Staff, led by Lt Col Elias Castillo Figueroa, chief of operations, participated in the ceremony.

Commander Humberto Ortega noted the solidarity shown by General Torrijos, whom he described as Nicaragua's friend and comrade. We will not forget Omar Torrijos, the EPS commander of chief said. He added: Torrijos lives on in the sacred cause of Latin America, which today is raising the banners of independence, self-determination and dignity.

Lt Col Elias Castillo Figueroa spoke on behalf of the Panamanian military. He reaffirmed that every country has the right to decide its own destiny. We believe in dialogue and peaceful coexistence, the high-ranking Panamanian officer said. He added that peace, harmony, economic development and understanding are the paths to the solution of the serious problems faced by the Central American region.

Finally, the Panamanian delegation, the FSLN National Directorate and the Government Junta unveiled a plaque testifying to the fact that the EPS artillery brigade will be named Gen Omar Torrijos.

One of the specific goals of the EPS is to overcome the mistakes of the past year, Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, defense minister and member of the FSLN National Directorate, said during the ceremony inaugurating the new EPS period of instruction.

Let us listen to part of the moving speech by Commander Ortega during the ceremony, which also marked inauguration of the Omar Torrijos Artillery Brigade.

[Begin recording] The fact that our fatherland is constantly threatened by the aggressive policy of the most reactionary circles in the U.S. Government and its lackeys in the Central American region makes it vitally necessary to continue to improve the military organization of the Sandinist people for defense, particularly in the reserve infantry battalions and our veteran Sandinist people's militias which, along with our permanent forces of the land, air and sea, comprise our EPS.

Our EPS, which is closely linked to our mass organizations, to the political and party structures of the FSLN and to the institutions of the revolutionary government, will continue to carry out the tasks of national defense which, like the armed self-defense units, took on special importance after 1972 as a result of the increase in armed activity by our people's attackers.

The EPS, along with the dedicated and brave fighters of our Interior Ministry, will live up to the role of vanguard in the area of military affairs and security that has been conferred upon them by our Sandinist people's revolution.

Our Sandinist fighting people will never forget our true friends and brothers who, like Gen Omar Torrijos, gave their hand in solidarity in the past and today nourish our revolutionary hearts, because Omar Torrijos lives on in the sacred cause of our disturbed Latin American that today is firmly raising the free banners of independence, self-determination, social justice, sovereignty, dignity, national pride, united national and social liberation, brotherhood and revolutionary internationalism bequeathed to us by Bolivar, San Martin, O'Higgins, Jose Marti, Zapata, Sandino, Farabundo Marti, Che Guevara, Camilo Torres, Carlos Fonseca and Omar Torrijos. [applause]

With these banners our Sandinist Army and people will continue to be guided by our historic vanguard, the FSLN, struggling resolutely against the demons of war, with the conviction that reason and the standards of peace of our peoples will triumph.

Free fatherland [crowd shouts: "or death"] [end recording]

BORGE ADDRESSES ANDEN ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY

PA051352 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Teachers, companeros: There is much talk about negotiations throughout the world. We are in favor of negotiations. It is true that we have weapons, good weapons; cannons, good cannons; tanks, good tanks. We won't conceal the fact that we have multiple, accurate and powerful rocket launchers, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge said yesterday at a ceremony in Managua commemorating the fourth anniversary of Anden [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers].

Above all, Borge added, we have tens of thousands of combatants among the people, yet all this formidable force is not intended to attack anyone. Rather than denying, this force reaffirms the search for peace.

Borge then said that the U.S. - Honduran military maneuvers that are currently being staged a mere 12 km from our northern border have stimulated the counterrevolutionary bands' activities and are [word indistinct] of the political intentions of a number of Nicaraguan politicking elements who, while playing along with imperialism, go around begging for intervention.

The interior minister stressed that the world's peoples acknowledge that this country of warriors is an enemy of war. We assert, reassert and will always reassert our earnest desire for peace. However, he continued, certain principles cannot be negotiated. Neither the homeland's sovereignty nor the weapons that defend that sovereignty are negotiable.

CORDOVA RIVAS ADDRESSES COFFEE HARVEST RALLY

PA061455 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2348 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Speech by Nicaraguan Government Junta member Rafael Cordova Rivas at rally to welcome returning coffee pickers in Matagalpa -- live]

[Text] Companeros Jaime Wheelock Roman, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister; Father Ernesto Cardenal, culture minister; Wilfredo Barreto and Carlos Manuel Morales, delegates of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Dora Maria Tellez; members of the mass organizations; members of the general staff of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS]; special guests; mothers of heroes and martyrs; companeros;

I bring the deepest thanks from the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN National Directorate for the work you have done in harvesting the 1982-1983 coffee crop. It was an enormous, huge and gigantic task that only the Sandinist people could achieve. [Applause] This thanks is not only from the revolutionary government, but also from the sick in the hospital who need the foreign exchange from the coffee harvest. It is also from the mechanics, transporters and factory workers who need the foreign exchange for spare parts. It is also from the farmers who need the foreign foreign exchange for supplies so that the country can continue to work and march on the victorious path that the FSLN National Directorate has pointed out. [applause]

In this revolution we do not say you go. We don't tell the peasants, government workers and bureaucrats: You go. We say let's go. When we say let's go, the professionals, poets and the children of the leaders go, such as (Fula), (Katia), (Manola) and (Kepa); our children are there with you! [Applause]

The production brigade members' work is important and heroic. It is absolutely necessary work. It is very important work, as important as that of the border guard troops who die on the borders, as important as the work of the EPS members, as important as the reserve battalions. The person who carries a basket is as important as the person who carries a rifle to defend the national sovereignty. [applause] With companeros such as you, companeros of the fleas, companeros of the ticks [laughter], companeros of the worms, companeros of hunger and cold, with that indomitable determination with which you picked the coffee beans, we are ready to defend the national solidarity and national territory. We are ready so that you will occupy a place in combat in the front lines. [applause] They shall not pass. They shall not pass. They shall not pass. [Crowds chants "They shall not pass"].

We have to be alert. We must be alert. Everyone speaks of peace; Nicaragua also wants peace. We want peace. We don't want to be forced to go to war. However, if we go to war, if unfortunately we have to go to war, we have 120,000 infantrymen with their rifles to protect the northern border, the southern border and against the fifth column inside our national territory. [applause; chants] We have to honor our slogan, fatherland or death. We have to honor our slogan, free fatherland or death, because we have to maintain their revolution no matter what the cost since it is an example for Latin and Central America. It is an example of a social, economic and cultural revolution that all peoples of the world admire and view as a precious thing that must be guarded so that social justice will reach all social classes. [applause]

We are not afraid of the imperialist threat. We are not afraid of "Hawk Views," which turned out to be a buzzard. We are not afraid of "Big Pines" that are smaller than a splinter. [laughter, applause] You aware companeros know your destiny. You know that we are going to fight and we are going to fight to be sovereign, to be self-determined, to be Nicaraguan and to have our own culture, to do whatever we want and have relations with whatever countries we wish. [applause]

Since it is getting dark and very cold, we are going to finish. [laughter] We have a historic commitment with many Nicaraguans who have preceded us in developing our nationality. We have a historic commitment with that girl, [first name indistinct] (Herrera) who in 1976 [as heard] defeated British imperialism. We have a historic commitment with (Jose Dolores Estrada), who defeated the U.S. imperialists and filibuster in San Jacinto in 1856. We have a historic and more recent commitment with Augusto Cesar Sandino who from 1927-1933 fought the U.S. Marines and expelled them from this country. [appaluse] However, we have a more precious commitment. It is the commitment to the fresh blood shed by 50,000 young Nicaraguans. It is the commitment to the blood of Carlos Fonseca Amador, Leonel Rugama, Jose Benito Escobar, Carlos Aguero, Ricardo Morales Aviles, Julio Buitrago and others, and that is why we say: Free fatherland or death! Fatherland or death!

HENRY RUIZ INTERVIEWED ON REGION'S ISSUES

AU041525 Sofia BTA in English 1430 GMT 4 Feb 83

["Threat for Peace in Central America" -- BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, Feb 4 (BTA) -- Today's RABOTNICHESKO DELO carries an interview with the member of the national leadership of the Sandinista Front for National Liberation and minister of Planning of Nicaragua, Mr Henry Ruiz, in connection with the Honduras manoeuvres which have started close to the Nicaraguan borders.

"In spite of the allegations that the exercises had "defensive" character, the exercises are actually offensive" said Mr Henry Ruiz. He says that there is no other reason for the exercises to be organized but the aggressive aims against Nicaragua at a moment when the counter-revolutionary incursions on the northern border of the country are being repelled and when the revolutionary Salvadorean forces are carrying out successful operations against the regime's army. "The Sandinista popular revolution is defending itself successfully against the internal and external enemies. We are stronger now than we were in 1979" says Mr Ruiz.

He says that the North American imperialism is seeking to destroy the Sandinista popular revolution regardless of the means and methods.

The United States are exerting pressure on certain political circles in Honduras to make them back the adventurers in the Honduras Army, who are ready to act together with their Somoza friends and who have turned the Honduras territory into a refuge for the Nicaraguan counter-revolution. The aggressive role in which Honduras Army, rallies the government and certain Honduras social layers into one adventure that is quite dangerous for Central America.

Mr Henry Ruiz underlines that such objective conditions as poverty, ignorance, oppression, slavery and humiliation, under which the peoples of Central America live, are the principal source of the current crisis in that part of theworld. The local ruling circles exacerbate further this crisis by directing their efforts at backing up antiquated economic structures and social relations. Besides this, the obsequious and nearsighted local oligarchy has always blindly supported with its moves the role of gendarme played by the North American imperialism.

To the question how the Sandinista Front for National Liberation and the Government of Nicaragua see the ways for converting Central America into a zone of peace Mr Ruiz said: "The national leadership of the Sandinista Front for National Liberation and the revolutionary government are using every possible way for political negotiations and signing of respective agreements in order to convert Central America into a zone of peace. The French-Mexican and the Mexicano-Venezuelan peace proposals, the efforts of Panama and other such attempts are directed along these lines".

OPPOSITION DELEGATION VISITS VENEZUELAN LEADER

PA031945 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The need for general elections in Nicaragua was expressed yesterday to Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins by Adan Fletes, president of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [as heard]. Fletes and other members of his party were recieved at the presidential residence, La Casona. Fletes said that he has the support of all Venezuelan democratic organizations in his attempt to seek a democratic opening in Nicaragua. He also said that on several occasions the Socialist International and the Christian Democrats have supported the original Nicaraguan revolutionary process, which promotes pluralism, freedom, respect for human rights, a mixed economy and nonalignment with either of the two blocs.

Fletes said that he had given President Herrera Campins some proposals that will contribute to strengthening peace in our fatherland, which include immediate elections and not elections held in 1985 as was announced by the Sandinist junta. Fletes added that a difficult situation is being experienced in Nicaragua. They are facing war conflicts, an acute economic crisis and difficulties in the functioning of the organizations. But Fletes said he believes that through dialogue and efforts they can reach a democratic opening in their fatherland.

RODRIGUEZ ENDS OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA 5 FEB

FL051645 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1503 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Cuba's Councils of State and Ministers Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez today concluded a 4-day visit to India. During his stay in New Delhi, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez met with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to discuss various matters related to the seventh nonaligned summit, scheduled to take place in that capital next March.

The Cuban leader was the bearer of a personal message from Cuban President Fidel Castro, who is also chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. The Indian chief of government asked Rodriguez to convey warm greetings to the commander in chief.

Carlos Rafael held several rounds of talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Narashimha Rao as well as a friendly meeting with that country's president, Zail Singh. During all these meetings the main topics taken up were the Nonaligned Movement and bilateral relations.

Importance of Rodriguez Visit

PA080014 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Weekly feature on the Nonaligned Movement]

[Text] The meeting in New Delhi on Friday between Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, can be described as very important for the Nonaligned Movement. In that meeting, the high-ranking Cuban Government official delivered to the Indian prime minister a message from Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

In the meeting they discussed subjects dealing with the main problems that will be dealt with by the participants in the seventh conference of the Nonaligned Movement that will be held in New Delhi in early March.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez briefed Indira Gandhi on the talks he held with Indian External Affairs Minister Narashimha Rao regarding the great forum of the Nonaligned Movement. Both the Cuban leader and Indira Gandhi expressed their concern about the current international situation and the serious threats to world peace. They agreed that the latter subject is one of the most essential topics that must be discussed in the seventh summit of chiefs of state or government of the Nonaligned Movement. They also stressed the importance that this great forum will give to the issues of development in the current international economic crisis. In this regard, they said that the prevailing economic structure relentlessly hits the developing countries.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez began his visit to India on Wednesday. That same day he met with Indian President Zail Singh. It was a meeting that confirmed the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between Cuba and India.

Rodiguez then held two rounds of official talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Narshimha Rao. In the talks they studied the various subjects included in the draft of the final declaration of the seventh Nonaligned Movement summit.

In brief remarks to the press, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said that the Nonaligned Movement can seriously and firmly contribute to the cause of world peace and to the reestablishment of detente, key points for the holding of this meeting.

Rodriguez indicated that the problem of detente is very serious, since it is threatened precisely by those who want to use military superiority as the only language in negotiations. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stressed the extension of the capitalist economic crisis to all nations, and said that this situation has caused more hunger, poverty and underdevelopment than the legacies of colonialism.

Indian External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao praised the role played by Cuba and Fidel Castro, president of the Nonaligned Movement, in the leadership of that group of nations at a time of great international tensions. Cuba, the Indian external affairs minister stressed, has led the movement with determination, dignity and a sense of responsibility. He added that Cuba has rejected all forces and pressure foreign to the movement.

The main Indian newspapers have highlighted these talks and the visit of Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and his party in headlines that stress the agreement of views on the main problems of the Nonaligned Movement.

At the end of January, the Indian authorities began to send to all the member states the draft of the final declaration, which, according to observers, particularly guarantees the role and place of the nonaligned countries in the struggle to maintain and strengthen world peace, end the arms race and prevent military interventions, the use of force and other forms of imperialist interference. This step by the Indian Government was preceded by a number of consultations with neighboring countries and other countries that have held similar conferences.

SWEDEN'S SCHORI ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENTS

FL080221 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] Mr Pierre Schori, secretary for foreign affairs for the Kingdom of Sweden, arrived in our country this afternoon. At the Jose Marti International Airport, he was met by Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

Mr Pierre Schori, secretary for foreign affairs of Sweden, has just arrived in our country. We would like to know the reason for his visit to our fatherland.

[Begin Schori recording -- in Spanish] The purpose of the visit is to exchange ideas and information on what is going on in the Caribbean and Central American regions and, in addition, to discuss the bilateral relations between Sweden and Cuba. We have good relations but, because we have a new government in Sweden since last October, we thought it was important to come here to discuss those topics. We have visited Costa Rica and Nicaragua and have just arrived from Mexico.

As everyone knows, a human tragedy is taking place in Central America, in Guatemala, El Salvador, as well as on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border. We do not want to be the vanguard in this because it should be Latin American but, as Europeans, we would like to support all negotiated solutions aimed at seeking peace, social justice and national sovereignty in Central America. Because of this, we are here. [end recording]

We appreciate the statements made by Pierre Schori, secretary for foreign relations of Sweden, to the national television newscast.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS VISIT 7 FEB

Malmierca at Arrival

FL071941 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, foreign minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, arrived at Jose Marti International Airport this morning. He was greeted by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, member of our party's Central Committee; Oscar Oramas, vice minister of foreign relations; Manuel Agramonte, acting director of the North Africa and Middle East Division of the Foreign Ministry; and Hocine Zatout, Algerian ambassador to Cuba.

The Algerian foreign minister is visiting us at the invitation of the Cuban Foreign Ministry, where he will hold official task with his Cuban counterpart.

Taleb Ibrahimi is accompanied by (Nuredim Kerum), director of political affairs of the Algerian Foreign Ministry.

Official Talks Open

FL080200 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] His Excellency Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, foreign minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, was introduced today to the diplomatic corps accredited to our country at a ceremony held at the Cubanacan Protocol Hall. The ceremony was chaired by Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the party's Central Committee and foreign minister. Also present at the ceremony was Algerian Ambassador to Cuba Hocine Zatout. The Algerian minister is visiting our country at the invitation of Cuba's Foreign Ministry.

Official talks between the Cuban and Algerian foreign ministers opened today the main offices of the Foreign Ministry in Havana. The Algerian foreign minister arrived in our country this morning.

In opening the talks, Isidoro Malmierca stated that these talks are very important for raising the level of cooperation between the two nations.

The delegation accompanying the Algerian foreign minister is formed by Algerian Ambassador Hocine Zatout and (Nuredim Kerum), director for international political affairs of the Algerian Foreign Ministry. The Cuban delegation is formed by Vice Foreign Ministers Oscar Oramas and Lazaro Mora.

CUBA, USSR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SIGN AGREEMENT

FL031321 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] In Havana, the Chambers of Commerce of Cuba and the Soviet Union have signed a joint work program for the period 1983-1984. The document was signed by Vladimir Petrovich Plentnev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Jose Antonio Garcia Lara, vice president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce.

The two officials voiced satisfaction over this new contact which will prove beneficial for the development of bilateral cooperation.

RAUL CASTRO PRESIDES AT MILITARY CEREMONY

FL080007 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, FAR minister and second secretary of the Central Committee, has presided at the military parade held to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the General Antonio Maceo Interservice School. Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, first deputy FAR minister and chief of the General Staff, on behalf of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, conveyed greetings to the chiefs, officers, cadets, soldiers and civilian workers of the military training center. He said that during the decade of the 60's, the first divisions of the Army, Navy and Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force were organized, which is why it was necessary to create the school to train officers. General Rosales said cadets for a modern, courageous and internationalist army are being trained at the Gen Antonio Maceo Interservice Center, a place where our people's traditions of struggle are forged. General Rosales noted the development attained by the Gen Antonio Maceo Interservice School in improving the living conditions of the cadets. He also referred to the quality of the educational process in forming new officers and thanked the fraternal cooperation offered during the past 2 decades by Soviet military specialists.

At the conclusion of the military ceremony, Army General Raul Castro toured the installations built on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the institution. He also presented awards for FAR distinguished service and certificates of recognition to the sculptors of the bronze statue of Gen Antonio Maceo, which was unveiled today at the entrance of the school.

REDUCED PRICES, CREDIT LOWERS PLANNING GOALS

FL051459 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 1 Feb 83 p 4

[By Colin McSeveny]

[Text] Havana, (CANA-REUTER) -- Cuba, forced on the defensive by low sugar prices and shrinking foreign credit, has lowered its planning goals and is digging in for a long period of economic austerity. Fidel Castro's Communist government is convinced its arch enemy - the United States - is doing its utmost to persuade Western banks that credit to Cuba should be throttled.

The country's siege mentality is heightened by the slump in world sugar prices caused partly by the European community's surplus beet production. Cuba is the world's biggest sugar exporter. Central Planning Board President Humberto Perez told the National Congress last month: "No aggressive policy of imperialism can bring us to our knees no matter how many difficulties are involved, no matter how much sacrifice and effort is needed to defeat it."

Sugar exports and foreign credit are Cuba's main sources of the hard currency needed to buy vital foodstuffs and industrial parts from the West. Both are going through a rough patch.

The world price of sugar, which makes up about 80 per cent of Cuba's exports, has fallen from more than [26] cents a pound (55 cents a kilo) three years ago to around seven cents a pound (15 cents a kilo) and shows no signs of rising.

The effect on Cuba's capacity to buy essential imports from the West in dollars has been catastrophic and Mr Perez admitted that total exports this year would generate only 63 per cent of the $1.5 billion needed. Almost all Cuba's trade with communist countries is handled in non-convertible currencies.

In addition, Cuban officials said that $700 million in short-term credit facilities from abroad had been withdrawn over the past 15 months, partly because of pressure from Washington. As a result, Cuba was forced late last year to begin talks on rescheduling $1.3 billion of its $3.5 billion foreign debt in an effort to postpone principal repayments until 1986.

Diplomatic sources here generally backed the view that Washington had tightened the financial screws but added the Cubans had to expect such action given the repeated U.S. warnings of further sanctions against Cuba for its alleged aid to Central American revolutionaries. The United States clamped a trade embargo on Cuba more than 20 years ago when Dr Castro began moving towards communism.

"Cuba is going through a very tough economic spell as Mr Perez's speech and recent announcements by Fidel Castro made clear," the commercial attache of a Western embassy here told REUTERS. Last year, Dr Castro said: "We should not fool outselves we have difficulties and our difficulties in coming years could be still greater." Mr Perez echoed this view, calling for sacrifices and greater efforts if Cuba was to meet its target of two to 2.5 per cent growth, the same as last year. The planning chief said the increase would be achieved through greater and more efficient production in sugar, nickel, coffee and citrus products though he acknowledge that growth would run well below the level forecast a few years ago. Cuba's current five-year plan (1981-85) had originally programmed annual growth at five per cent.

Mr Perez praised Cuba's continued progress last year in social services, medicine and education -- mainstay programms in the revolution launched by Dr Castro almost 25 years ago. He said similar progress would be maintained in this year's $12.1 billion budget which showed a 1.8 per cent increase on last year's. But it is still well down on the 1981 state expenditure of $13.7 billion. Defence will remain around 10 per cent of the total, a proportion described by Finance Board President Francisco Garcia Valls as "relatively high...because of the threats from North American imperialism."

Mr Perez told the assembly that cuts averaging 15 per cent in meat, fish, eggs and milk consumption in schools and work canteens would remain in force. They were introduced last year. A strict rationing system allows Cuba's 10 million people a good basic living standard in Latin Ameircan terms though they occasionally have to endure long food queues and shortages.

But many diplomats said this year's growth target was over-optimistic particularly as the plan assumed Cuba's debts would be successfully rescheduled. The talks, with bankers from Europe and Japan, are still under way.

Last year, Dr Castro said in a major speech: "It could be that our overall economy in the immediate future will grow little or not at all."

Mr Perez did not explain exactly how the $550 million shortfall in export-earned hard currency would be made up, but the implication was clear. "Technical and financial assistance from the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, contribute decisively to lessening the effects of the difficulties we have in our economic relations with capitalist countries," he said. He added the Soviet bloc, with which Cuba does some 80 per cent of its trade, would continue to supply all that was necessary for Cuba to boost its exports and guarantee a resumption of foreign debt repayments in 1986. The Soviet Union, through complex support deals such as supplies of cut-price oil and the purchase of sugar at guaranteed high prices, helps keep the Cuban economy afloat. Cuba has not released figures for Soviet aid, but Western diplomats believe Moscow pumps in the equivalent of between three and four billion dollars a year, mainly in the form of subsidies.

BERMUDA

GOVERNMENT WANTS GOVERNOR SENT BACK TO UK

Financial Scandal

FL071535 Bridgetown CANA in English 1608 GMT 6 Feb 83

[By Ivan Clifford]

[Excerpt] Hamilton, Bermuda, Feb 6, CANA -- The Bermuda Government has told Britain it wants governor Sir Richard Posnett sent back to the United Kingdom in the wake of a financial scandal rocking government house, the daily newspaper in this British colony has said. The ROYAL GAZETTE said a top secret meeting concerned expenses irregularities was held here last week with the head of the British Foreign Office Finance Department, Terence Streeton.

Bermuda's finance minister, David Gibbons, who flew out of the island on his way to London on Friday, will meet a senior British Government official in London to discuss the affair this week, the GAZETTE said. "The matter has been referred to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for appropriate action," said Mr Gibbons. "Pending their decision, which will be conveyed to me (this) week, government has requested that the governor be recalled."

The governor, who has refused to talk to press here about the matter, was due to fly to London last night to discuss allegations first made in the London DAILY MAIL newspaper on Friday with Britain's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Francis Pym.

Governor in London

FL072030 Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The governor of Bermuda, Sir Richard Posnett, is back in London for discussions with Foreign Secretary Francis Pym. His return followed recent (?allegations) of financial irregularities in the island, one of Britain's oldest colonies. Bermuda's Finance Minister David Gibbons is also expected to visit London this week.

Election Victory Overshadowed

FL042215 Bridgetown CANA in English 2105 GMT 4 Feb 83

[By Ivan Clifford]

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, Feb 4, CANA-REUTER -- An election victory by the ruling United Bermuda Party (UBP) was overshadowed today by disclosure that the British Foreign Office has asked Governor Sir Richard Posnett to report on allegations of financial irregularities involving a British official in Bermuda. A report in today's British DAILY MAIL newspaper said Foreign Office officials had begun an inquiry in Bermuda into accusations that cash had been recouped on unused first-class airline tickets and that household food and drinks had been charged to the taxpayer. The report came as a shock to the 55,000 residents of this affluent Atlantic Ocean British colony which yesterday gave Premier John Swan the mandate he had been seeking when the UBP increased its majority in the 40-seat House of Assembly from four seats to 12. The UBP now has 26 seats to the 14 for the predominantly black opposition Progressive Labour Party (PLP).

There had been no reports in the Bermuda press of the Foreign Office inquiry. A government spokesman said a statement would be issued later today. Prime Minister Swan, 47, a self-made millionaire and the island's second black leader, had asked the electorate for a personal mandate for his own style of leadership and yesterday voters responded by giving his party 56.6 per cent of the vote. "There is now no room for recriminations or ill-will in the country. We all have to work hard together to see to it that we build a great society that serves the interests of all the people," Mr Swan said last night. Opposition leader Lois Browne Evans, 55, who is expected to come under pressure from her party to step down, blamed the PLP's defeat on too casual an approach to registration by her supporters. "I don't think it had anything to do with the charisma of John Swan," she said. The biggest blow for the opposition came in Hamilton West where both PLP incumbents lost.

MONTSERRAT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DISSOLVED, ELECTIONS SET

FL050130 Bridgetown CANA in English 0016 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Feb 4, CANA -- Chief minister of Montserrat, John Osbourne, dissolved the island's Legislative Council and set general elections for February 24, 10 months before they were constitutionally due. With 20 days to go before polling, electioneering is expected to gain momemtum next week as the three parties intensify their campaign for the seven seats in the legislature of this British colony. Osbourne's People's Liberation Movement (PLM) will be seeking a second term, while former Chief Minister Austin Bramble's Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) and the United National Front (UNF) led by George Irish, are the two other parties contesting the poll.

Mandate Against Socialism Sought

FL071515 Bridgetown CANA in English 2012 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Feb 5, CANA -- Montserrat's chief minister, John Osborne, says this month's general elections due nearly a year ahead of schedule, are to seek a mandate against "socialism." Osborne, addressing a campaign public meeting accused the other two political parties -- the Progressive Democratic Party of Austin Bramble, and George Irish's United National Front, of pursuing socialist politics. "There is growing evidence that those two parties are bent on taking the island on a socialist path," he said adding, "This type of politics is not good for Montserrat." Mr Osborne likened the ideology of Bramble, a former chief minister, to that of Guyana's President Forbes Burnham or ex-Prime Minister Michael Manley of Jamaica. Speaking of Dr Irish, who is also head of the powerful Montserrat Allied Worker's Union, Mr Osborne said: "I cannot confirm or deny accusations of his association with communism." But he told the public meeting that a vote in the February 24 poll for Dr Irish was a vote for Bramble, "They are one and the same." Dr Irish was associated with the chief minister's People's Liberation Movement in the 1978 general elections.

Mr Bramble said that over the last two years, the Osborne administration had taken the country from a state of economic solvency to the verge of bankruptcy. He said the only way the administration could hope to save the country from going broke was to call an early election, hope to get back in office and then impose additional taxes. Osborne's party is fielding two new candidates in the contest for the seven Legislative Council seats. Barrister-at-Law David Brandt comes in for Thomas Meade, a backbencher in the outgoing administration, and John Wilson, a Plymouth businessman, who replaces John Dublin, a former minister of education dismissed last year.

PRESIDENT FORBES BURNHAM DISMISSES ARMY OFFICERS

FL042200 Bridgetown CANA in English 2137 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb. 4, CANA -- President Forbes Burnham, who is commander in chief of the Guyana Defence Force [GDF] has approved the dismissal of three army officers, effective from December 31, 1982. An announcement from the GDF named the officers as Lieutenant S. John, Second Lieutenant R. Bailey and Second Lieutenant P. Saeed, but gave no details.

HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD MAY MEAN CUT IN CANADIAN AID

FL040255 Bridgetown CANA in English 2339 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 3, CANA -- The Guyana Government's human rights record has placed the South American republic's relations with Canada in jeopardy and could well result in a falloff in financial aid for a country severely strapped for cash, according to press reports here.

The DAILY NATION'S Canada correspondent, Eric Murray today reported on a document presented to the Canadian Parliament by a House committee which has been studying Canada's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean. It visited Guyana last August. He said the final reports section on Guyana described human rights abuses there as "repungant" and urged the Canadian Government to convey to Guyanese authorities Canada's "extreme disapproval" of their human rights policies and practices.

The committee was made up of both government and opposition members of Parliament. It discussed new directions for Canadian foreign policy in Latin America and the Caribbean, specifically looking at human rights.

According to the correspondent, it recommends that Canadian development assistance be substantially reduced, terminated or not commenced in cases where gross and systematic violations of human rights make it impossible to promote the central objective of helping the poor. "If Canada's prime minister, Pierre Trudeau, accepts certain recommendations aimed at the (President Forbes) Burnham regime, Guyana will find that although it will continue to get Canadian aid, the funds may be reduced considerably," Murray wrote.

He said the report cites evidence of a mismanaged Guyana economy, of an oppressive regime and of deep racial hatred between Blacks and East Indian.s It also speaks about harassment of the press, perversion of the political process, torture of citizens and the reported existence of death squads.

The committee said it considered the aid issue, and felt that while aid to Guyana should not be withdrawn at this time, it should be reduced. It suggested that aid be restricted to small projects in the private sector. This would mean that government projects would get no aid if Prime Minister Trudeau accepts the recommandations.

The committee also feared that cutting off aid completely could further destabilise the Guyanese society and provide Venezuela with a pretext to use military force to seize the near 70 percent of Guyana it claims. It felt too that it should not frustrate a lobby by Commonwealth Caribbean countries for human rights improvements in Guyana.

OPPOSITION SAYS BOUTERSE OVERTHROW IMMINENT

PA080103 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] The Hague, 7 Feb (AFP) -- A military action in Suriname to eliminate the military power of Colonel Daysi Bouterse is reportedly imminent, according to a leaflet distributed in Paramaribo by the Movement for the Liberation of Suriname/Rearguard Section, the Netherlands news agency ANP has reported. The leaflet has caused great tension among the people of Paramaribo, added ANP, citing sources in Suriname. The document urged the people to stay at home starting tomorrow, Tuesday, 8 February, with sufficient food reserves for several weeks; and urged the closing of banks and businesses in the face of the imminent liberation of Suriname.

Tomorrow it will be 2 months since the execution of 15 opposition members following the complete takeover of power by the military junta.

The leaflet, according to ANP sources, was distributed by order of U.S. mercenaries, who announced 3 weeks ago the preparation of military action against the junta. The document also advised Col Bouterse not to use Suriname soldiers in case of violence because they would not have sufficient experience to fight "against foreign armed forces with trained officers."

According to ANP, the action should take place in February, and a special envoy of the U.S. supplier of the mercenaries is now in the Netherlands obtaining logistical advice from former Suriname military men.

The Council for the Liberation of Suriname, which was established at the beginning of January in the Netherlands by former Surinamese President Henk Chin a Sen, today supported the appeal of the rearguard, asking the people not to go into the streets tomorrow. The council stated today that "this would be in protest against the homicides of 8 December and against the country's present situation." Neither the ANP sources nor the council could specify the composition of the Movement for the Liberation of Suriname/Rearguard Section.

GUNMEN FIRE ON JUNTA HEADQUARTERS 3 FEB

PA080131 Paris AFP in Spanish 2327 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] The Hague, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Two Suriname military men were wounded last Thursday in a shooting incident outside the Memre Buku garrison in Paramaribo, where the headquarters of the Suriname junta is located, according to the Netherlands ANP news agency, which cited sources in Suriname. Unidentified individuals fired on the guard post of the garrison from a moving private car passing in front of the garrison. The garrison guards fired back but were unable to stop the car, said ANP. If this is confirmed, it would be the first violent action against Colonel Daysi Bouterse's junta since the military took over full power on 8 December 1982, which led to the summary execution of 15 opposition members.